

express

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Weekend



Putin is worried about arms control near Russia.

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ENTERTAINMENT

'Condemned' To Watch: Stone Cold Steve Austin stars in the WWE's latest cinematic mess. Plus, 'Diggers.' >>**19-32**

Weather >> Rain, T'Storms

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FUTURE PERFECT

INTERGALACTIC STYLES STAR THIS SPRING | **WEEKEND STYLES**



PETER COSGROVE/AP

Hawking's Flight of a Lifetime

WEIGHTLESS: Noted astrophysicist Stephen Hawking is cheered at the Kennedy Space Center Thursday after completing an "amazing" zero-gravity flight. Hawking, who suffers from ALS, is the first disabled person to experience zero-G. **Flying higher?** Hawking eyes space travel | **Page 4**



churchgoer, hoping the judge would set a low bond. Judge John Burlew was skeptical and asked Hine to recite the 23rd Psalm. He did — all six verses. Some in the courtroom applauded. Burlew released Hine on a \$10,000 appearance bond. (AP) **EyeOpeners** | **Page 2**



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Standoff Over Iraq War Exit

Senate OKs Oct. 1 deadline, White House promises veto

WASHINGTON | In a bold wartime challenge to President Bush, the Democratic-controlled Senate voted Thursday to begin withdrawal of U.S. troops from Iraq by Oct. 1 with a goal of a complete pullout six months later. The White House dismissed the legislation as "dead before arrival."

The 51-46 vote was largely along party lines, and like House passage a day earlier it underscored that the war's congressional opponents are far short of the two-thirds majority needed to override a Bush veto.

Following Thursday's final passage, Democrats urged Bush to reconsider his veto threat. "This bill for the first time gives the president of the United States an exit strategy," said Rep. David Obey of Wisconsin.

The White House was unmoved. "The president's determined to win in Iraq," said deputy press secretary Dana Perino.

The vote occurred nearly four years after Bush stood on the deck of an aircraft carrier before a banner that read "Mission Accomplished" — and 113 days after Democrats took power in Congress and vowed to change course in a war that has cost the lives of more than 3,300 U.S. troops. (AP)

eyeOpeners

SPILLS

And This Is Why Soda Comes in Cans

There's no use crying over spilled milk, but spilled soda has been a nightmare for one Mobile, Ala., man. Eric Burns Overstreet was put in jail in September after entering the Mystik Stop & Shop, paying for a fountain drink and spilling three cups of it onto the floor. The first time, he fetched a mop and began cleaning up. In the process, he spilled a second and a third drink. Overstreet was chased down by a clerk when he grabbed another soft drink and left without paying. Last week, he got a one-year suspended sentence. The judge said he hoped the soda was good. Overstreet responded: "I should've had a V8." (AP)



AWKWARD

'Grandma, Look at The Funny Balloon!'

A grandmother was alarmed to find a condom in a Happy Meal bought for her 7-year-old granddaughter at a McDonald's in New Zealand. Rowan Hutch, the child's grandfather, said it was lucky his wife was first to look inside the small sports bag that came with the meal. She was aghast when she found the condom, he said. "I was pretty horrified, really — the fact my granddaughter was going to look in the bag and find this thing. It would be difficult to explain — she's only seven," said Hutch. A spokeswoman said the previous Happy Meal gift had sold out and sports bags were substituted, but she could not explain the condom's presence. (AP)



PETER MACDIARMID/GETTY IMAGES

HOT DRINKS

When Tea Attacks

Thousands of cups of tea — 74,802, to be exact — lined London's Trafalgar Square on Wednesday. The bevy of beverages represents the average Briton's lifetime consumption of tea and took workers seven hours to arrange in the square. The installation is part of a Channel 4 television program called "The Human Footprint." (EXPRESS)

TACKY

Less Hideous Than A Stretch Hummer

Forget taking a limo to the prom. A high school senior from New Rockford, N.D., drove his date to the prom in a 1992 green John Deere 8760 tractor. "A few people made bets with me that I wouldn't do it," said Levi Rue. "I guess I won them." Rue suggested the idea to his date, Alissa Bachmeier, two days before the prom. She worried about her dress getting dirty. But after Rue promised to make the vehicle immaculate, Bachmeier agreed. "I cleaned it up pretty good," he said. Bachmeier wore a lime green prom dress that nearly matched the tractor. (AP)

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Special Report solves the “My home isn’t selling” problem

WASHINGTON METRO — A "Special Report" explodes what its author exposes as "The myth of slow home sales." In fact, the Report explains, in clear and plain English, how a home owner who wants to sell can not only count on a sale within 120 days but can be guaranteed that the sale will occur.

The Report proves its accuracy by quoting specific local instances in which the technique it describes has sold homes time after time, quickly, efficiently, and at a favorable price.

The author of the report, noted realtor Frank Sanya, has made numerous appearances on both television and radio.

Mr. Sanya states that the Report represents the compendium of his many years of real estate experience and can be of substantial value to homeowners, especially those whose homes have been on the market unsold for a considerable period of time. The author emphasizes that although he does not accept every listing, by following the Report's procedures he accomplishes a sale in every instance in which he is the broker of record.

The secret, says the Report, is a combination of traits and procedures that consistently result in a successful sale. For a free copy of the Report, go to a private but available Web site — www.WantItSoldNow.com.

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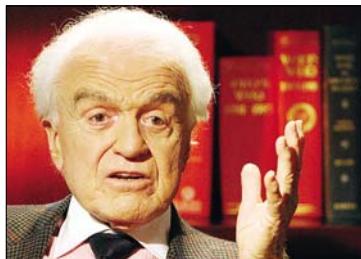




BEEN THERE: Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice suggested she is not inclined to comply with a House subpoena seeking information about Iraq war intelligence because she has already testified under oath about it.

Nation

In Brief



JONESWICK/AP

Jack Valenti, who was hospitalized in March with a stroke, died on Thursday.

LOS ANGELES

Former White House Aide Jack Valenti Dies At Home

Jack Valenti, the former White House aide and film industry lobbyist who instituted the modern movie ratings system and guided Hollywood to the digital age, died Thursday. He was 85. Valenti had a stroke in March and was hospitalized for several weeks at Johns Hopkins University Medical Center in Baltimore. He died of complications of the stroke at his Washington, D.C., home, said Seth Oster of the Motion Picture Association of America. (AP)

BRISTOL, IND.

Tractor-Trailer Crashes Into Traffic, Killing 8

A tractor-trailer slammed into traffic that had slowed for construction Thursday morning, starting a pileup that killed eight people and injured two others, police said. Five people in a van were among the dead, said 1st Sgt. Dave Bursten of the Indiana State Police. Four of them were Amish residents of nearby LaGrange County, officials said. (AP)

N.H. Lawmakers Pass Civil Unions

Governor says he will sign bill giving legal rights to gay couples

CONCORD, N.H. | New Hampshire lawmakers voted Thursday to authorize civil unions and sent the measure to Gov. John Lynch, who announced last week that he would sign it.

The Senate passed the bill 14-10 along party lines, Democrats in favor and Republicans opposed.

"This legislation is a matter of conscience, fairness and of preventing discrimination," said governor's spokesman Colin Manning. "It is in keeping with New Hampshire's proud tradition of preventing discrimination."

Three other states already offer



Sen. Martha Fuller Clark, left, celebrates with Rep. Suzanne Harvey on Thursday at the Statehouse in Concord, N.H., after the N.H. Senate voted to authorize civil unions.

Sponsors of the civil unions bill called it a door to marriage in all aspects but name. Opponents argued it would lead to the collapse of traditional values.

"Let's just call it what it really is, no sugarcoating," said Republican Sen. Robert Letourneau. "This creates same-sex marriage. There is no right to marriage in either the New Hampshire Constitution or the federal Constitution."

"We don't let blind people drive or felons vote, all for good and obvious reasons," he said.

State Rep. Jim Splaine, a Democrat who is openly gay, said time would change those attitudes.

"As we continue to evolve this discussion, we'll see people not worried so much about the marriage word," he said. (AP)

civil unions for gay couples: New Jersey, Connecticut and Vermont. Neighboring Massachusetts in 2004 became the only state to allow gay

marriage.

Unlike other states, there was no active court challenge to push New Hampshire to act on the issue.

White House: Briefings Not Unlawful

Spokeswoman says election presentations OK under Hatch Act

WASHINGTON | The White House acknowledged Thursday it has conducted about 20 briefings for federal employees on the election prospects of Republican candidates — the sort of meetings that have led to an investigation into administration political activity.

The U.S. Office of Special Counsel this week began a probe into a pre-

sentation by Bush aide J. Scott Jennings to political appointees at the General Services Administration. At issue is whether the January session violated the federal Hatch Act, which bars federal employees from engaging in political activities with government resources or on government time.

Bush spokeswoman Dana Perino said no laws were broken and that



Perino

the White House counsel's office signed off on the effort.

"It's not unlawful, and it wasn't unusual for informational briefings to be given," Perino said. "There is no prohibition under the Hatch Act of allowing political appointees to talk to other political appointees about the political landscape in which they are trying to advance the president's agenda."

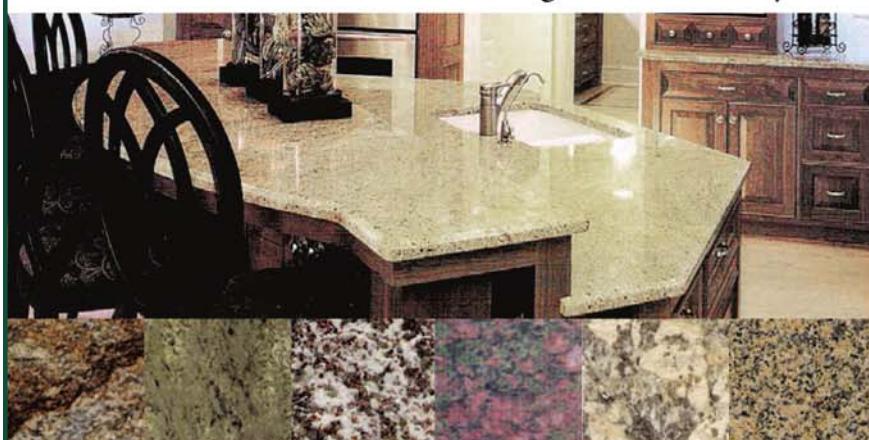
She added: "These briefings were not inappropriate, they were not unlawful, they were not unethical." (AP)

N.J. Gov. Corzine Glad to Be Alive

CAMDEN, N.J. | Gov. Jon S. Corzine, speaking publicly for the first time since he was seriously injured in an automobile accident two weeks ago, said Thursday that he feels blessed to be alive. "I'm the most blessed person who ever lived," Corzine told an Associated Press photographer from his hospital room. Corzine, 60, was riding in the front passenger seat without a seat belt on when his SUV, driven by a state trooper at 91 mph, crashed near Atlantic City, N.J. (AP)

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Nation

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The age of Nola Ochs, who will become the world's oldest college graduate when she receives a degree from Fort Hays State University in Kansas next month.

Hawking: 'It Was Amazing'

Famed astrophysicist floats weightless on zero-gravity flight

CAPE CANAVERAL, FLA. | Free of his wheelchair and tethered only to heart rate and blood pressure monitors, astrophysicist Stephen Hawking on Thursday fulfilled a dream of floating weightless on a zero-gravity jet, a step he hopes leads to further space adventures.

"It was amazing," Hawking said after the flight.

The modified jet carrying Hawking, a handful of his physicians and nurses, first flew up to 24,000 feet over the Atlantic Ocean off Florida. The jet then climbed to around 32,000 feet and made a parabolic dive back to 24,000 feet, allowing Hawking and the other passengers to experience weightlessness for about 25 seconds.

The plane made a total of eight parabolic dips, including two during which Hawking made two weightless flips like a gold-medal



Astrophysicist Stephen Hawking smiles Thursday during a press conference at the Kennedy Space Center in Cape Canaveral, Fla. Hawking took a zero-gravity flight.

gymnast," said Peter Diamandis, chairman of Zero Gravity Corp., the company that owns the jet.

"We had a wonderful time. It was incredible, far beyond our expectations," Diamandis said.

Hawking, a mathematics professor who has done groundbreaking

work on black holes, has the paralyzing disease ALS, also known as Lou Gehrig's disease.

The 65-year-old was the first person with a disability to experience the flight by Zero Gravity, which has flown about 2,700 people out of Florida since late 2004. (AP)



Aid to Hurricane Katrina victims living in federal trailers has been extended.

Katrina Housing Aid Is Extended

NEW ORLEANS | The Bush administration announced a \$1 billion plan Thursday to extend housing aid for people displaced by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita until March 2009. Federal housing aid for Katrina evacuees had been scheduled to end Aug. 31. Under the new plan, those people deemed capable of paying rent on their federally funded mobile home or rental apartment will be required to begin doing so in March 2008. Those unable to pay yet will get a waiver. (AP)

Officers Plead Guilty To Killing Woman, 92

Police fatally shot the woman during botched raid for drugs last fall

ATLANTA | Two police officers pleaded guilty Thursday to manslaughter in the shooting death of a 92-year-old woman during a botched drug raid last fall. A third officer still faces charges in the woman's death.

Officer J.R. Smith told the judge Thursday that he regretted what had happened.

"I'm sorry," the 35-year-old said, his voice barely audible. He pleaded guilty to manslaughter, violation of oath, criminal solicitation, making false statements and perjury.

Former Officer Gregg Junnier pleaded guilty to manslaughter, violation of oath, criminal solicitation and making false statements. Both men are expected to face more than



Police officer J.R. Smith, left, pleaded guilty to manslaughter on Thursday.

10 years in prison.

The charges followed a Nov. 21 "no-knock" drug raid on the home of Kathryn Johnston, 92. When the officers burst in without warning, Johnston fired at them, and they fired back, killing her.

Fulton County prosecutor Peter Johnson disclosed Thursday that the officers involved fired 39 shots, striking Johnston five or six times, including a fatal blow to the chest. (AP)

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TRIBUTES: Israel will name a forest in northern Galilee after the late Coretta Scott King as the country replants thousands of trees destroyed during last year's war with Hezbollah. The Coretta Scott King Forest will be a living memorial to King's legacy of peace and justice, officials said.

World

In Brief



A Somali government soldier mans a roadblock in Mogadishu on Thursday.

MOGADISHU, SOMALIA

Government Claims Victory In Battle Against Insurgents

Somalia's government claimed victory over an Islamic insurgency Thursday just hours after a surge in violence killed 58 people in the capital, but diplomats said they were skeptical the worst fighting in more than 15 years had ended. Somali troops and their Ethiopian allies have been trying to wipe out the insurgents since late March. Rights groups say the fighting has killed more than 1,000 people. (AP)

JERUSALEM

Militants Fire Rockets; Abbas Urges Israeli Restraint

Palestinian militants in the Gaza Strip fired two rockets toward Israel on Thursday, the army said, and Israeli officials warned they were losing patience with attacks that have undermined a cease-fire. There were no injuries. Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas said Thursday that calm had returned to Gaza and he appealed for Israel to refrain from raiding Gaza. (AP)

ALGIERS, ALGERIA

Report: Al-Qaeda Figure Dies in Clash With Soldiers

The No. 2 al-Qaeda official in Algeria was killed Thursday in a clash with an army patrol, the country's official APS news agency said, citing security officials. The body of Samir Moussaab, whose real name was Samir Saïoud, was identified by former members of an insurgent group that changed its name to al-Qaeda in Islamic North Africa when it announced its alliance with al-Qaeda in January. (AP)

U.S. Officer Allegedly Aided Enemy

Charges cited over duty in Iraq include giving cell phone to detainees

BAGHDAD | A U.S. officer has been accused of aiding the enemy — a charge that carries the death penalty — for allegedly providing an unmonitored cell phone to detainees while he commanded an MP detachment at the jail that held Saddam Hussein, the military said Thursday.

Army Lt. Col. William H. Steele

faces nine charges in all, including fraternizing with a prisoner's daughter, storing and marking classified material, maintaining an inappropriate relationship with an interpreter and possessing pornographic videos.

The rare charges were among the most serious levied against a senior American officer in Iraq but were the latest in a series of embarrassments for the U.S. military detention system here.

The alleged incidents occurred from October 2005 to this Febru-

ary, starting when Steele was commander of the 451st Military Police Detachment at Camp Cropper on the western outskirts of Baghdad and in his later post as a senior patrol officer for the provincial transition team headquarters at nearby Camp Victory.

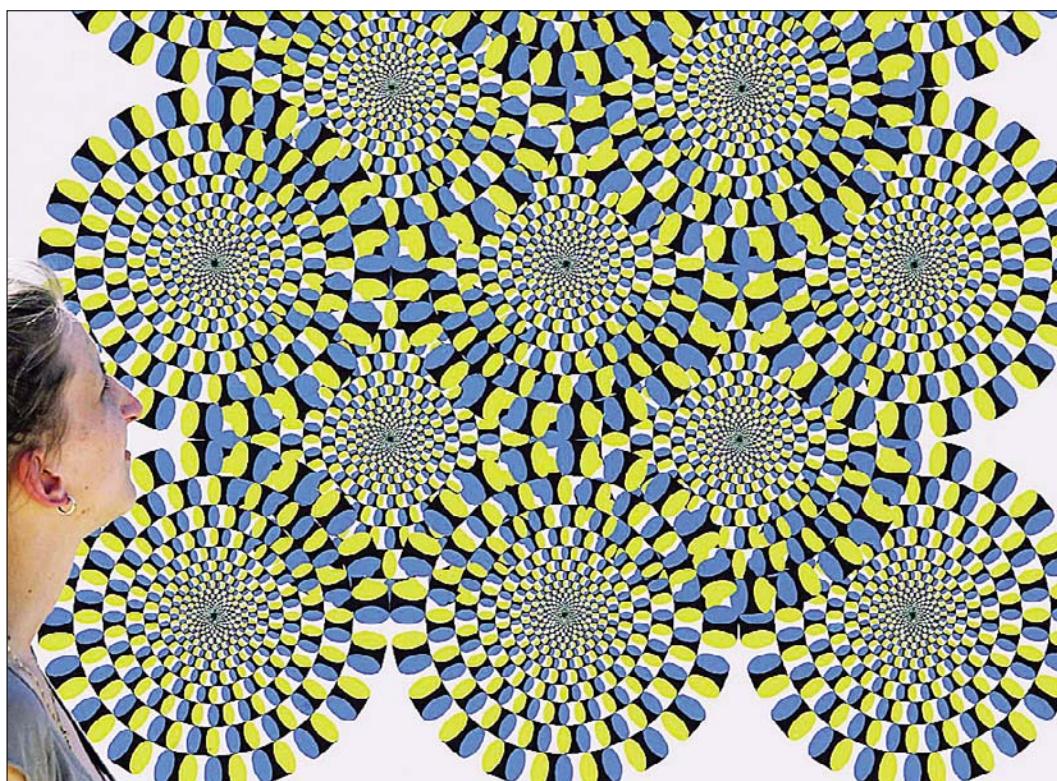
Steele was detained in March and is being held in Kuwait pending an Article 32 hearing, the military equivalent of a grand jury hearing, officials said.

The U.S. military command declined to comment on the case

but stressed nothing had been proven. "These are troublesome allegations, but, again, they are just allegations at the moment," the main U.S. military spokesman, Maj. Gen. William Caldwell, said.

Eugene Fidell, president of the National Institute of Military Justice, said the charge of aiding the enemy "could cover a multitude of sins," but he said a prosecutor would be hard-pressed to get a death sentence without showing "evidence that the purpose was really to aid the enemy and hurt our side." KIM GAMBEL (AP)

GERMANY | THE ART OF THE ILLUSION



EYE EXAM: A woman views an art installation that also provides an optical illusion Thursday at the "Optikpark" in Rethen, Germany. The collection, situated on the grounds of a horticultural show, will be open to the public until October.

Colombia's Electrical Grid Collapses

BOGOTA, COLOMBIA | Colombia's electrical grid collapsed Thursday, causing a nationwide blackout that briefly halted stock trading, trapped people in elevators and left authorities struggling to determine the cause.

President Alvaro Uribe told journalists in the southern city of

Cali that the blackout, which began at midmorning, "appears to have affected the entire country."

Luis Alarcon, manager of state-controlled electricity distributor ISA, issued a statement that the power outage apparently began with an undetermined technical glitch at a substation in Bogota and quickly

spread across the country.

He said work crews had re-established power to about 20 percent of the country and were working to reconnect the rest.

There was no indication of a terrorist attack, though leftist rebels routinely sabotage electric transmission lines as part of their four-decade old campaign to overthrow the government. (AP)



Prince Harry's regiment, the Blues and Royals, is due to deploy to Iraq soon.

In Reversal, U.K.'s Harry May Not See Battle in Iraq

LONDON | Prince Harry says he wants to be an ordinary soldier, but his army career has left military chiefs with an extraordinary predicament.

Commanders are reportedly reconsidering their decision to allow the prince to fight in Iraq for fear his presence could endanger other soldiers. Harry's regiment, the Blues and Royals, is due to begin a six-month tour of duty in Iraq within weeks.

The Sun newspaper quoted unidentified senior military officials Thursday as saying the review was likely to lead to Harry's being banned from the battlefield, although he could still do a desk job.

Over the weekend, newspapers reported threats by Iraqi insurgents to kill or kidnap the 22-year-old prince, including claims his photograph had been widely circulated among militants. (AP)

World



FLU FAKE-OUT: Chinese police have busted a pirate DVD ring that hid its operation in a fake bird flu research center in southeastern China, state media reported Thursday. Police seized 100,000 pirated DVDs and arrested 11 suspects in the raid.

Putin Weighs Freezing Arms Treaty

Russian leader warns he'll pull out of pact over U.S. missile shield

MOSCOW | President Vladimir Putin threatened on Thursday to suspend participation in a key European arms control treaty, accusing the United States and NATO of destabilizing the region with plans to install parts of an American missile shield in central Europe.

U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice dismissed the concern as "ludicrous," and said Moscow should live up to its obligations under the treaty, which limits the deployment of military aircraft, tanks and other weapons around Europe.

"Our partners are behaving incorrectly, to say the least," Putin said during his annual state-of-the-



Russian President Vladimir Putin gives his state-of-the-nation speech in Moscow.

nation address. "In case no progress is made during negotiations, I propose to discuss the possibility to end our obligations."

Withdrawal from the Conventional Forces in Europe Treaty

between Russia and NATO members would allow Moscow to build up forces near its borders, and Putin's threat provoked "grave concern" among NATO members, Jaap de Hoop Scheffer, the alliance's

chief, said at a foreign ministers' meeting in Oslo, Norway.

A Kremlin spokesman said later, however, that Russia would not pull out if it could reach accommodation with the West.

In his speech, Putin accused NATO members of taking advantage of the situation to build military bases near Russia's borders, and said plans to install interceptor missiles and radar systems in the Czech Republic and Poland were undermining the balance of military power in Europe.

The U.S. says its missile shield system is to counter the threat of attack by countries such as Iran.

Speaking in Oslo, Rice said the U.S. would continue efforts to "demystify" the plan for Russia by pushing an offer to share data and technology with Moscow. (AP)

Uganda Rebels, Government Back At Peace Talks

KAMPALA, UGANDA | Uganda's government and militant leaders on Thursday resumed peace talks aimed at ending one of Africa's longest and most brutal conflicts.

"We start from where we stopped when the talks failed last year," Interior Minister Ruhakana Rugunda said.

Negotiations broke down in December after the rebel Lord's Resistance Army movement walked out, accusing Southern Sudan — which has mediated the talks — of bias. They agreed to return in March after guarantees of safety.

During the resistance movement's 20-year insurgency, the group has been blamed for murder, mutilations and kidnapping children. (AP)



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CONJUGAL LIMIT: A woman pleaded guilty to using a false ID badge to enter a Maryland corrections facility while posing as an attorney so she could have sex with an inmate who is serving a 30-year sentence for manslaughter.

Local

Military, Civilians Join to Practice Emergency Drill

REISTERSTOWN, MD. | Hundreds dead. Tornadoes in Prince George's County. That imaginary scenario was part of a new kind of emergency drill undertaken by Maryland, Virginia and Washington, D.C., Thursday. Emergency planners routinely practice for a major storm hitting the area, but they don't spend as much time planning for the aftermath.

So, as emergency responders practiced on a pretend Category 3 Hurricane Thursday, their drill didn't even start until 48 hours after the storm hit.

In a joint military-civilian operations center in suburban Baltimore, about 100 people sat before five large screens and practiced a simulation of the aftermath of a major storm. (AP)

The Lotteries

Thursday, April 26

DISTRICT

Mid-day Lucky Numbers	1-4-4
Evening Lucky Numbers (Wed.)	9-3-4
Mid-day DC 4	5-9-0-9
Evening DC 4 (Wed.)	1-7-2-7
Rolling Cash Five (Wed.)	7-17-19-20-31
Daily 6 (Wed.)	10-15-16-28-35-39 Bonus: 20
Hot Lotto (Wed.)	9-15-29-34-37 (I)

MARYLAND

Mid-day Pick 3	0-1-7
Evening Pick 3 (Wed.)	2-3-6
Mid-day Pick 4	3-2-4-1
Evening Pick 4 (Wed.)	5-1-6-8
Match 5 (Wed.)	19-27-31-33-39 Bonus: 15
Lotto (Wed.)	1-10-15-24-27-36

VIRGINIA

Mid-day Pick 3 (Thurs.)	5-5-4
Evening Pick 3 (Wed.)	5-2-5
Mid-day Pick 4 (Thurs.)	4-5-0-4
Evening Pick 4 (Wed.)	5-4-8-8
Mid-day Cash 5 (Thurs.)	2-6-7-16-18
Evening Cash 5 (Wed.)	4-9-15-20-31
Win for Life (Wed.)	2-10-22-34-35-42

MULTI-STATE GAMES

Powerball (Wed.)	12-13-14-17-53 (II)
Power Play	4X

All winning numbers are official only when validated at a lottery ticket location or a lottery claims office. Drawings that occur after Express's deadline will be published two days later.

Officer Dies After Cruiser Collision

Man, 19, suspected of being involved in car chase is charged

SILVER SPRING, MD. | A 19-year-old suspected of leading police on a chase during which one officer was struck and killed has been arrested, Montgomery County authorities said Thursday.

Ruel F. Dempster, 19, is charged with one count of reckless endangerment and three counts of fleeing and eluding police. He is also

charged with four counts of hit-and-run in connection with striking parked vehicles. Reckless endangerment carries a maximum penalty of up to five years in prison, while each of the other counts carries up to a year.

Police believe Dempster was the suspected drunken driver who led police on a chase early Wednesday in Aspen Hill. Police responded to a report of a driver who appeared inebriated and tried to pull him over. The driver pulled into an apartment complex, got out of the

car and began running, police said. Montgomery County Police Officer Luke T. Hoffman got out of his

cruiser to chase the suspect and was standing on the side of the road in a dimly lit area when another cruiser hit him, critically injuring him, according to police. After hitting Hoffman, the cruiser swerved off the road and hit a tree. The driver,

Stephen J. Wofsey, was also injured. Both officers were airlifted to the Maryland Shock Trauma Center in Baltimore.

Hoffman died of his injuries at about 1:30 a.m. Thursday. Wofsey was released from the hospital Wednesday. Hoffman, 24, was assigned to the Wheaton police station and had just graduated from the Montgomery County Police Academy in July. Police said further charges could be brought against Dempster, who is being held on \$250,000 bond. (AP)

IN The Washington Post | WARD 4 ELECTIONS



SPEAK YOUR MIND: Ward 4 D.C. Council candidate Douglas Ned Sloan, left, answers a question as other candidates wait their turns at a public forum at St. Paul's Episcopal Church Wednesday. Ward 4 Council seat elections are May 1.

♦ **Shoes to fill:** Nineteen candidates seek Fenty's old seat. | Today's Metro

Ehrlich Denounces Dems in Charge

ANNAPOLIS, MD. | Former Gov. Robert Ehrlich is raising money to keep his campaign office open and has sent a letter to potential donors blasting the current administration.

Ehrlich, who has pledged not to criticize Democratic Gov. Martin O'Malley, accuses O'Malley of breaking campaign promises, favor-

ing tax hikes and "bowing to the wishes of the union bosses who got him elected."

The letter appears to show a former governor still unsettled by his election defeat. Ehrlich begins the letter recounting accomplishments of his administration and at one point refers to his wife, Kendel Ehrlich, as the "First Lady." (AP)

Pr. George's Officer Receives Jail Time

Judge sentences officer to 6-month term for pepper-spraying teens

A Prince George's County police officer who was convicted last month of assaulting four teenagers by pepper-spraying them was sentenced yesterday to six months in jail.

In an Upper Marlboro courthouse, Circuit Court Judge Cathy

H. Serrette also ordered that Cpl. Sheldon Vessels, 37, be placed on three years of supervised probation. Vessels told the judge "my intent was always to do good."

Serrette noted that Vessels was suspended with pay at the time of the incident and was not authorized to act as a police officer.

"Your actions disrespected both our police force and our community," Serrette said.

RUBEN CASTANEDA (THE WASHINGTON POST)

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Money

Wendy's to Consider Sale

Hamburger chain will explore sell-off options as part of turnaround

DUBLIN, OHIO | In the last year, Wendy's International Inc. has spun off its Tim Hortons coffee-and-doughnut chain, dumped its money-losing Baja Fresh Mexican Grill and laid off employees at its corporate office.

The company may now seek a boost to its stock price with another tactic — selling off what's left of the nation's third-largest hamburger chain.

"We've had a lot of initiatives, and we've executed them well over the last two years," Chief Executive Kerri Anderson said. "That's created a tremendous amount of value over the last 12 months, and we have



Wendy's trails McDonald's and Burger King in the U.S. burger business.

a responsibility to continue to create value."

The company announced Wednesday that a special board committee had been formed to study options for the company, including a possible sale.

The developments mark a whirlwind year for Anderson, who took over as chief executive after long-

time CEO Jack Schuessler abruptly retired last year. She completed a flurry of transactions and quickly rededicated the chain to promoting the core business of signature square hamburgers and the Frosty, a dessert in a cup.

On Thursday, one day after the announcement, Wendy's shares shot up more than 16 percent, or \$5.31, to close at \$37.99 on the New York Stock Exchange.

"I think it could be a good thing to sell," shareholder Ray Vawter said. "I've always admired them on their new product offerings, and they've always exhibited a lot of good new thinking."

Wendy's trails McDonald's Corp. and Burger King Holdings Inc. in the burger business, operating about 6,600 restaurants in the U.S. and abroad. RACHEL HOAG (AP)

Exxon Mobil: Profits Rise 10% in IQ

NEW YORK | Oil giant Exxon Mobil Corp. kicked off 2007 with a 10 percent rise in profits, its best-ever first quarter, as higher margins on refining and chemical operations offset lower prices for crude oil and natural gas.

Exxon Mobil, the world's largest publicly traded oil company, said Thursday it earned \$9.3 billion in

the January-March period, beating Wall Street expectations, even as revenue slipped and fell well short of analysts' forecasts.

The Irving, Texas-based company was the third major oil company to report earnings in as many days. BP PLC, Europe's second-largest oil company, on Tuesday reported a 17 percent drop in first-quarter earn-

ings on lower oil prices and declining production. On Wednesday, ConocoPhillips said its first-quarter profit rose 7.7 percent as a result of asset sales that offset lower year-over-year commodity prices.

Also on Thursday, Valero Energy Corp., the nation's largest independent oil refiner, said its first-quarter profit jumped 35 percent on the back of stronger gasoline and distillate margins. (AP)

Market Action

New York Stock Exchange

Gainers

STOCK	LAST	DAILY CHANGE	DAILY PERCENT CHANGE
Harman	122.50	+19.94	+19.4
Wendys	37.99	+5.31	+16.2
Cohen&Str	52.16	+7.20	+16.0
Owensill	30.50	+4.20	+16.0
ITT Ed	95.46	+12.09	+14.5

Losers

BrshEMat	50.95	-10.79	-17.5
ParTech	9.11	-1.51	-14.2
LSI Corp	8.94	-.98	-9.9
TylerTech	12.00	-1.11	-8.5
Amerigrp	30.05	-2.53	-7.8

Rates

	CURRENT	PREVIOUS WEEK	TODAY	PREVIOUS DAY	YEAR AGO
Prime Rate	8.25	8.25	.5022	.4995	.5602
Fed Funds close	5.23	5.20	1.1205	1.1150	1.1279
3-month disc	4.81	4.85	.7353	.7331	.8030
2-year	4.64	4.63	119.63	118.69	114.70
10-year	4.68	4.66	10.9275	10.9321	11.1475
30-year	4.86	4.83	33.32	33.30	32.05

Currency (Dollars in foreign currency)

	CURRENT	PREVIOUS WEEK	TODAY	PREVIOUS DAY	YEAR AGO
British Pound	.5022	.4995	.5602	.5602	.5602
Canadian Dollar	1.1205	1.1150	1.1279	1.1279	1.1279
European Euro	.7353	.7331	.8030	.8030	.8030
Japanese Yen	119.63	118.69	114.70	114.70	114.70
Mexican Peso	10.9275	10.9321	11.1475	11.1475	11.1475
Taiwanese Dollar	33.32	33.30	32.05	32.05	32.05

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S&P 500 -1.17

+0.12

+0.26

-0.08

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Pharmacy Stocks

STOCK	LAST	DAILY CHANGE	YEAR TO DATE PERCENT CHANGE
AbtLab	56.91	-.65	+18.8
Allergan	120.98	+.19	+1.0
AstraZen	54.94	-.64	+2.6
BarrPhm	48.71	-.02	-2.8
BrMySq	29.23	-.47	+12.3
Cephl	80.42	+.512	+14.2
ForestLab	54.46	-.22	+7.6
Hospira	41.04	-.14	+22.2
JohnJn	64.24	-.44	-2.7
LillyEli	59.73	+.22	+14.6
Merck	52.43	+.04	+20.3
Pfizer	26.72	+.40	+3.2
SchergPl	31.85	-.02	+34.7
Sepracor	56.64	+.344	-8.0
Wyeth	56.00	-.12	+10.0



NATIONAL TREASURE: Oscar winner Nicolas Cage, right, stands with co-stars Diane Kruger and Justin Bartha between takes during April's shoot in Washington.



ALSO THIS SUNDAY

Small Lights, Big City

Why is the D.C. Filmfest still a minor-league event after all these years as an elder statesman on the movie festival circuit? | **Arts**



History on the James

Along the James River, colonial plantations stand as time machines to America's birth — and as grim reminders of the slavery that built them and of the native culture they displaced. | **Travel**

of *Secrets*" shot in Washington for two weeks, using locals and out-of-towners to play dignitaries, pedestrians and, of course, readers at the Library of Congress.

"The plan was to come out to beautiful D.C. at cherry blossom time and have lovely spring weather," Aviano says ruefully.

That didn't happen, as you know. The Library of Congress sequence was fine. It was indoors. The scene at Mount Vernon was written as a balmy outdoor reception for the president's birthday, but the cold and persistent rain the second week of April made its own edits to the script.

Ashburn resident Brian Reynolds, 40, played a Mount Vernon police officer during that shoot. Reynolds, a private sales consultant with no previous acting experience, put his head shot and résumé on extrasnow.com about six months ago and found himself escorting Cage during one scene.

"There were lots of people in evening gowns and tuxedos, and we had to work out in the pouring rain, so the glamorous part went right out the window," says Reynolds, who put in 26 hours of work over two days. "But I absolutely loved it. The atmosphere is very contagious."

If you're going to be an extra on a major motion picture, expect a long, hard workday. As far as managing the tedium, the trick is to bring something to do and be open to meeting your fellow actors.

DAN ZAK (THE WASHINGTON POST)



Cage, an actor of many gestures, stars in the "National Treasure" sequel.

It's hard work to fill in the background for a Nicolas Cage movie

Overcome by the irony of having nothing to read in the world's biggest library, I stare at the ceiling and take mental notes on the absurdity of my existence, sacrificing a weekend to a Nicolas Cage movie.

I am flat on my back in one of the oak-paneled rooms in the Library of Congress, where the sequel to 2004's "National Treasure" is filming. The crew is setting up a shot in the grand reading room, and we extras (or "background actors," if you will) are consigned to this smaller holding area. Cattle in a pen. Twelve-thirty to 3:30 a.m., there on the floor. Heaps of tired meat.

This is the "wait" part of "hurry up and wait."

The fun part of being an extra, though, is truly fun, especially if you love movies. Fast-forward to my second night of shooting. Two nimble, attractive people sprint down the center aisle of the read-

ing room.

They zoom behind me, duck into the librarian's console and slip down a stairwell as I continue, puzzled, toward the stacks to reshelf a book.

That's when the SWAT team hustles in. A flood of D.C. police and FBI agents follows. Guns are drawn. I freeze mid-walk, ready to drop my book.

"Cut!"

The tension in the cavernous room evaporates. The law enforcement officials let their paunches back out. They waddle wearily out of the reading room for another go. I rewind myself back around the console to my desk.

The room's big gold clock says 1:45 a.m. It's hour 17 of the 20 hours two dozen other extras and I spent on the library set earlier this month.

The result? Maybe 30 seconds of film.

In those 30 seconds, maybe you'll see us — a torso or a profile in the background, out of focus, as Cage strides by, looking for Abraham Lincoln's pants, or whatever. When the

es the camera in the extreme foreground, whisper "That's me!" and not be convinced that it is.

The term "extra" connotes superfluity, but extras are not superfluous. They provide the texture, the cinematic reality, for a movie. Before a director calls "action," he calls "background." That's when extras start doing their thing: walking down the street, having a fake drink at a bar or, in my case on "National Treasure: Book of Secrets," returning a book to the stacks just before Harvey Keitel bursts in with the law.

"Background is the bottom, and it's a lot of work," says Williamsburg resident Tamara Johnson, an author and actor who's playing a librarian in the sequence. "But it really legitimizes a movie. If you don't have us, your scene is flat."

Absolutely right, says Maryellen Aviano, the extras casting coordinator for the "National Treasure" sequel and a veteran of 35 feature films.

"We can't make the movie without you," says Aviano, whose job it is to accurately populate scenes and sequences. "National Treasure: Book

Gone in 60 Seconds

→ So, who are the people willing to spend 20 hours on the set to be in a few seconds of film? Profiles of D.C. movie extras and their movies this Sunday in the Post. | **SUNDAY SOURCE**

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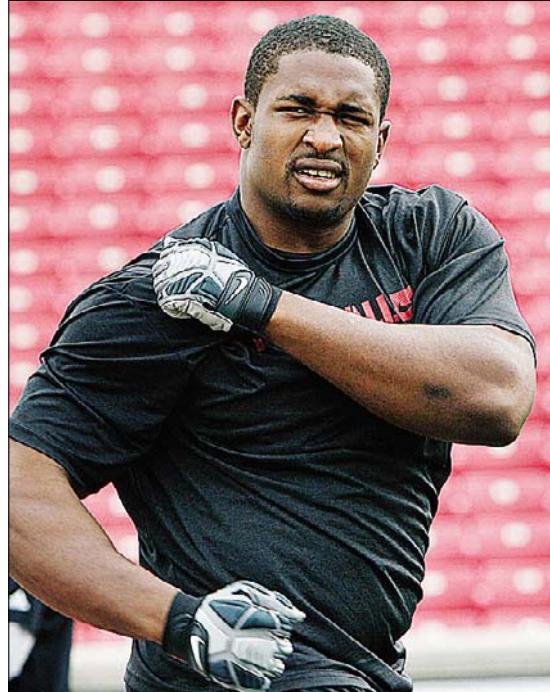
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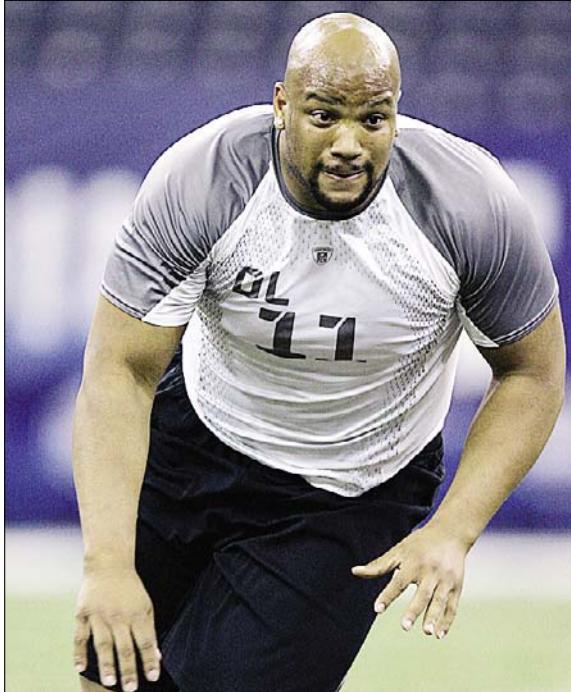
WIZARDS

Cavs Aren't Caving: Too many putbacks and rebounds doom the Wizards, as the team returns home down 2-0 to Cleveland. | 16

Sports Weekend



HOLD THE LINE: Amobi Okoye, left, and Alan Branch are considered two of the nation's top prospects on the defensive line.



GARRY JONES/AP; MICHAEL CONROY/AP

Draft Dodgers

Redskins again have just one first-day pick heading into weekend

REDSKINS | It takes a lot of audacity for a coach of a 5-11 team to say what Joe Gibbs said Tuesday.

The Hall of Fame coach claimed the Washington Redskins are so stacked that it would be hard for any player selected in this weekend's NFL draft to contend immediately for a starting job.

"You'd love to have a guy who can make an immediate impact," Gibbs said. "But to be quite truthful, you look at our football team, where could a player step in here right now and say: 'I'm taking over'? Where is that?"

So Calvin Johnson or LaRon Landry — they'd be riding the pine if they came to Washington? What about a player the Redskins could really use, a defensive linemen

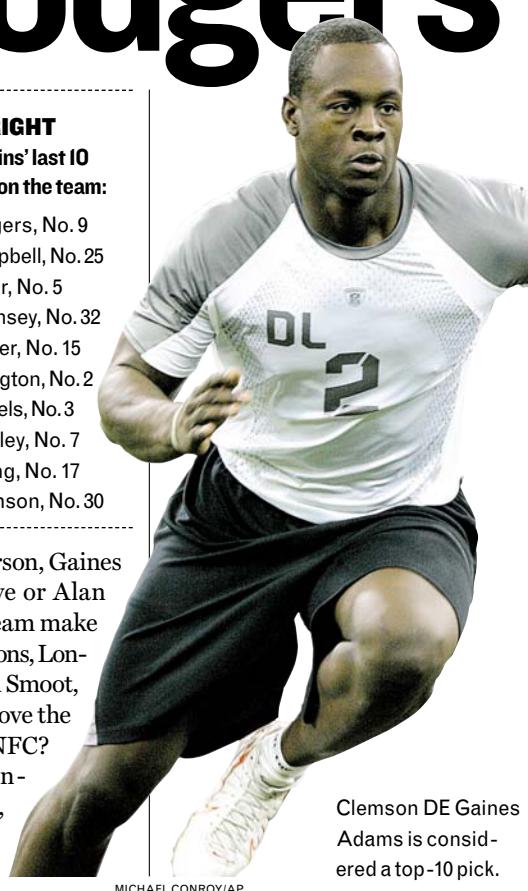
MAYBE GIBBS IS RIGHT

Only four of the Redskins' last 10 first-rounders are still on the team:

- 2005 — Carlos Rogers, No. 9
- 2005 — Jason Campbell, No. 25
- 2004 — Sean Taylor, No. 5
- 2002 — Patrick Ramsey, No. 32
- 2001 — Rod Gardner, No. 15
- 2000 — LaVar Arrington, No. 2
- 2000 — Chris Samuels, No. 3
- 1999 — Champ Bailey, No. 7
- 1997 — Kenard Lang, No. 17
- 1996 — Andre Johnson, No. 30

such as Jamaal Anderson, Gaines Adams, Amobi Okoye or Alan Branch? Didn't this team make only two modest additions, London Fletcher and Fred Smoot, in an attempt to improve the worst defense in the NFC?

Still, Gibbs maintained the Redskins, should they hang on to the No. 6 overall



MICHAEL CONROY/AP

Clemson DE Gaines Adams is considered a top-10 pick.



BASEBALL | CSI: Boston

It may take DNA experts to finally settle the rumors surrounding Curt Schilling's famous bloody sock. Orioles broadcaster Gary Thorne said on the air Wednesday night that Schilling painted the sock red as a public relations stunt in the Red Sox's Game 6 win over the Yankees in the 2004 AL championship series. The charge that Schilling faked the bloody sock has been made before, including in GQ magazine, which cited an anonymous Red Sox player as its source. "I got the nine-inch scar for you," Schilling told the Boston Globe. "You can see it." (AP)

TV Lineup



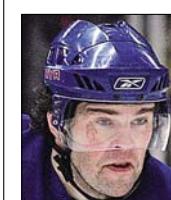
Dmitri Young and the Nationals play host to the Mets this weekend at RFK.

→ DATE WITH NEW YORK'S

FINEST: After a tough road trip, the Nationals come back to RFK to play the Mets in a three-game series starting on Friday (7:05 p.m. on MASN). Game 2 will be played on Saturday (7:05 p.m. on MASN2), and the finale is on Sunday (1:05 p.m. on MASN2).

→ HEADING TO THE JAKE:

Cleveland's been pummeled with snow recently, but the weather likely won't be that bad when the Orioles head to Jacobs Field to battle the Indians on Friday (7:05 p.m. on MASN2), Saturday (7:05 p.m. on MASN) and Sunday (1:05 p.m. on MASN).



→ PUCKS, STICKS AND MISFITS:

All the die-hard hockey fans should keep their TVs turned to VERSUS and NBC this weekend. They have all of the coverage of the second round of the NHL playoffs.

→ A GAME OF FIRSTS: Both D.C. United and the Columbus Crew are looking for their first wins of the season when they play Saturday (7:30 p.m. on CSN) in Columbus.

→ PLAYOFFS IN D.C.: After losing Games 1 and 2 in Cleveland the Wizards bring the playoff party to D.C. in hopes of winning on their home court on Saturday at (5:30 p.m. on TNT).

→ WIN OR GO HOME: The first round of the NBA playoffs continue this weekend, and ESPN, ABC, TNT have all of the coverage.

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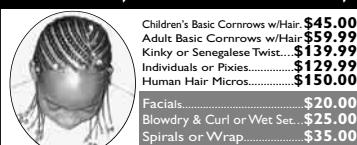


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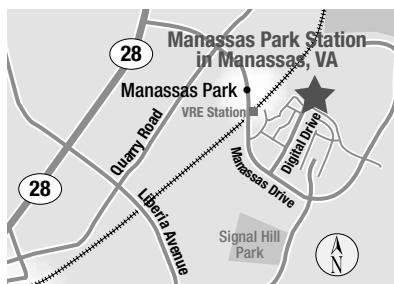


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CENTEX HOMES



Four Wizards watch as Cavs forward Drew Gooden slams home a dunk during a win in Game 2. Washington has struggled to contain Gooden and LeBron James.

7-Letter Words Doom Wizards

Playoff hopes plagued by dirty terms such as 'putback' and 'rebound'

WIZARDS | "Putback" can be such a dirty word.

Like when a pair of offensive rebounds-turned-layups late in a game seals yet another loss for your shorthanded squad.

For the Wizards, rebounding from a 0-2 series deficit has never looked so hard.

It's not hard to think Caron Butler would have snared one, if not both of the fourth-quarter boards that led to a second-chance layups in Cleveland's 109-102 victory. Yet, those LeBron James and Drew Gooden baskets made a huge difference in a game in which the Wizards put in an exemplary effort only to lose to a stronger team.

"We're only shorthanded on talent," head coach Eddie Jordan told Comcast Sportsnet after the game. "We're not shorthanded on emotion or trying to play the right way."

A pair of themes has emerged in the first two games.

The first — which has dogged the Wizards the last few years — is rebounding. Cleveland has 24 more boards in the first two games, outrebounding Washington 56-38 on Wednesday, including 16 on the

offensive end.

James' rebound and putback through a pair of Wizards defenders with just more than three minutes to play restored Cleveland's lead to eight after Washington had cut it down from double-digits. Gooden's board and bucket nearly a minute later ensured that, despite its best efforts, Washington would never be able to make it a one-possession game.

The other factor has been Washington's inability to play four consistent quarters. The Wizards have had one nightmarish stretch in both games that has let Cleveland build a lead.

Washington was 5 for 20 from the floor in the fourth quarter of Game 1, allowing the Cavaliers to coast through the final minutes to a 97-82 win. On Wednesday, the Wizards were 6 for 24 in the third quarter, but charged back in the fourth to make Cleveland sweat out the victory.

While the Wizards have clear areas in which to improve, it may be unsettling to know they've been defeated in two very different ways.

While the Wiz are playing better than when Gilbert Arenas went down a month ago, they now must try to save their season with two games at the Verizon Center starting Saturday night. ERIC BRANDNER

Reliable National Defense

Struggling this season at the plate, Schneider is still solid behind it

NATIONALS | Brian Schneider is quietly having an awful season at the plate.

When a hitter whose career batting average is just .256 spends the first month of the season in a fruitless struggle to approach the .200 mark, you'd expect more of an uproar. Not this year. Not with this team.

Though the Washington Nationals were counting on increased offense from their catch-



PROTECTING HIS PLATE: Catcher Brian Schneider, left, tags out Miguel Montero in an April 6 game against the Diamondbacks.

twice before attempting to steal even though few Nationals pitchers are adept at holding runners. And pitchers don't fret that a misguided pitch could reach the backstop.

"It's just reassuring to have him back there," said right-hander Shawn Hill, who has been the best pitcher on one of baseball's worst pitching staffs. "You don't have to worry too much about runners on base. And if you want to bury a two-

strike pitch, go ahead and do it and he'll block it."

Schneider's deep slumber at the plate is unlikely to last the entire season. And the Nationals have little choice but to wait it out. Making \$3.5 million this season, the 30-year-old is among the team's highest paid players. And his backup, 22-year-old Jesus Flores, is a Rule 5 draft pick with a .253 average in five minor-league seasons.

In an era when a catcher, like Minnesota's Joe Mauer, can be a batting champion, the Nationals still need Schneider — his guts, his feel for the game, his reassurance when a pitcher struggles.

"It helps a lot because he's got their respect," manager Manny Acta said. "He's been here for the last six years with this ballclub. He's part of the leadership group. He's always got their backs." DEREK TURNER

N.Y. METS AT WASHINGTON

1

2

3

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7:05 P.M.
MASN

APRIL 28
7:05 P.M.
Ch. 20

APRIL 29
1:35 P.M.
MASN2

er, he gets more leeway than most. Schneider's value lies elsewhere.

On a team whose pitching is as predictable as a minefield, Schneider's defensive prowess keeps him in the lineup. In fact, it has kept him in the big leagues for eight seasons, six as a starter.

His quick release and strong arm make the opposition think

PITCHING MATCHUPS

Matt Chico



Throws: Left
Fastball: Low 90s
Best Pitch: Curveball

YEAR	IP	ERA	W	L	H	ER	BB	SO
'07 NL	18.1	6.38	1	2	24	13	15	12
'06 AA	81.0	2.22	7	2	62	20	21	63

Oliver Perez



Throws: Left
Fastball: Mid 90s
Best Pitch: Slider

YEAR	IP	ERA	W	L	H	ER	BB	SO
'07 NL	16.2	3.31	2	1	15	6	7	17
'06 NL	36.2	6.38	1	3	41	26	17	41

GAME Chico is coming off a terrible start in which he walked seven and gave up six hits and four runs. Similarly, Perez also has control problems, but in his last outing he was superb. He struck out nine and walked none, surrendering just two runs, in a 7-2 win over the Braves.



GAME 2 Jerome Williams vs. Tom Glavine



GAME 3 Jason Bergmann vs. John Maine

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Weekend

Sports

PROJECTED PICKS FROM THE AP

MOCK DRAFT: ROUND 1

1  **Jamarcus Russell, QB:** Russell fits the profile for an Al Davis quarterback and the Raiders' vertical offense—he can throw the ball 80 yards in the air. >>>

2  **Gaines Adams, DE:** Though Matt Millen took wide receivers three years in a row, two of them were busts. If they don't trade down, they will go after the pass rusher Millen covets.

3  **Adrian Peterson, RB:** With Jamal Lewis showing signs of being worn down, Peterson, a 1,500-yard per season guy may have to carry the load sooner rather than later.

4  **Calvin Johnson, WR:** Jon Gruden really wants Johnson, but he also needs a stud left tackle like Joe Thomas. But if he's still available, Johnson is their guy.

5  **Joe Thomas, OT:** The logical need is offensive line. However, new coach Ken Whisenhunt isn't sold on Thomas. Disinformation to get Thomas to fall this far?

6  **Amobi Okoye, DT**
If the Redskins take Okoye, they will probably be doing the right thing.

7  **Leon Hall, CB**
The Vikings need to improve a secondary that got torched last season.

8  **Jamaal Anderson, DE**
The Falcons need a pass rusher to replace Patrick Kearney.

9  **Brady Quinn, QB**
The Dolphins have been looking for a QB since Dan Marino retired.



10  **Levi Brown, OT**
The Texans now have a QB in Matt Schaub, and he needs protection.

11  **Adam Carriker, DE**
The 49ers still need defensive help, even after their offseason.

12  **Patrick Willis, LB**
The Bills have and can continue to win with their tough defense.

16  **Marshawn Lynch, RB:** Vernand Morrency won't cut it. The **PACKERS** need a RB.

17  **Reggie Nelson, S:** If he is still around, he is a perfect fit for the **JAGUARS**.

18  **Darrelle Revis, CB:** He hasn't had any off-field problems, a key for the **BENGALS**.

19  **Dwayne Bowe, WR:** Now the **TITANS** have a target for Vince Young.

20  **Joe Staley, OT:** It's hard to find a left tackle, and the **GIANTS** need one.

21  **Jarvis Moss, DE:** The **BRONCOS** have no pass rush.

22  **Ted Ginn Jr, WR:** With Terry Glenn aging, the **COWBOYS** need a young talent.

23  **Eric Wright, CB:** He is the most talented CB and a nice fit for the **CHIEFS**.

24  **Aaron Ross, CB:** The **PATRIOTS** need a backup cornerback desperately.

25  **Greg Olsen, TE:** The **JETS** hope he is the next Jeremy Shockey.

26  **Brandon Meriweather, S:** The **EAGLES** don't like taking linebackers early.

27  **Lawrence Timmons, LB:** This solves the **SAINTS'** problem at LB.

28  **Anthony Spencer, LB:** He fits perfectly into the **PATRIOTS'** defensive scheme.

29  **Justin Blalock, G:** Improving the offensive line is critical for the **RAVENS**.

30  **Michael Griffin, S:** The **CHARGERS'** one need is at safety.

31  **Justin Harrell, DT:** With Tank Johnson in jail, the **BEARS** need a plan B.

32  **Jon Beason, LB:** The **COLTS** always draft good linebackers.

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REDSKINS | BY MATT SWENSON

Redskins Have Plenty of Holes

BASED ON TUESDAY'S press conference at Redskins Park, you can draw one of two conclusions about Joe Gibbs: Either he is showing great gamesmanship before the NFL draft or he is out of his mind.

How else do you explain Gibbs' comment that the Redskins' draft pick likely won't be able to crack the starting lineup next year?

Lest Gibbs forget, Washington was a 5-11 team last season with plenty of holes to fill. So far, only middle linebacker and cornerback have been addressed adequately — and that's assuming Shawn Springs isn't traded.

If the coach is just blowing smoke to help trade the pick, there's nothing

An abundance of talent is not Washington's problem. Ignoring the draft will do that.

wrong with that. It may be unusual for the Redskins — normally the most transparent team in football — to play misdirection, but then again, Al Saunders' offense has a lot of reverses for two-yard gains.

Being coy about draft intentions is smart, assuming a proper plan is in place come Saturday. Yet, consider the alternative. Does Gibbs really believe bad luck sabotaged the Redskins' 2006 season?

Last I looked, the team still needs a couple of defensive linemen, one guard, another safety, probably another linebacker and, in a perfect world, a legitimate No. 2 wide receiver.

An abundance of talent is not Washington's problem. Ignoring the draft will do that to your depth.

We'll see whether Gibbs really realizes that when this weekend's work is done.

@ To reach Matt Swenson, e-mail matt.swenson@readexpress.com

Different Draft Strategy

Baltimore's GM goes after the best player before fulfilling needs

RAVENS | The Baltimore Ravens' most pressing need is depth on the offensive line. Need, however, is not necessarily part of the equation on draft day.

There should be several standout centers, guards and tackles available Saturday when it comes time for general manager Ozzie Newsome to use the 29th overall pick in the NFL draft. If the Ravens made a habit of using their first-round selection to fill the most gaping holes on the roster, they would already be searching for a pair of oversized shoulder pads for someone like tackle Joe Staley of Central Michigan or tackle Justin Blalock of Texas. That, however, is not how Newsome operates.

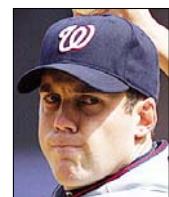


Central Michigan offensive tackle Joe Staley might fit the Ravens' most gaping hole — on the line. But GM Ozzie Newsome says his team won't worry about need.

Hill Throws Gem In Nats' 4-2 Win Over Phillies

NATIONALS | Shawn Hill wouldn't let an injury to his non-throwing arm keep him off the mound. It's a good thing for Washington, because Hill's pitching like an ace.

Hill pitched eight-plus innings, Dmitri Young homered and the Nationalssnapped Philadelphia's five-game-winning streak with a 4-2 win Thursday.



"A terrific performance," Washington manager Manny Acta said.

Aaron Rowand hit a solo shot for the Phillies to extend his career-best hitting streak to 14 games.

Hill (2-2) gave up two runs and four hits, striking out three in his 14th career start. The right-hander hasn't allowed more than two earned runs in any of his five starts this season.

Chad Cordero got three outs, fanning Wes Helms with a runner on third to record his second save in four chances. (AP)

"We do not — especially on the first day of the draft or the top-four picks — factor in need," he said. "We factor in who's the best player. There have been some occasions where we took a player knowing that we had needs at other positions."

Newsome's first-round picks include Ray Lewis, Jamal Lewis, Chris McAlister, Ed Reed, Terrell Suggs, Mark Clayton and Haloti Ngata — all of whom last season helped the Ravens win the AFC North with a 13-3 record.

So what will the Ravens do this year? If they don't take a lineman with the first pick, they will certainly address the need later in the draft. Baltimore also needs a fullback to replace the departed Ovie Mughelli, who signed with Atlanta, and an outside linebacker to fill the void left by the exit of Adalius Thomas, who joined New England. (AP)



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STRAIGHT FORWARD: Kansas City's Michael Harrington, top, scores on goalie Troy Perkins during the Wizards' 4-2 win over United in D.C.'s home opener two weeks ago.

Early Prognosis In D.C. Negative

United goalie says D hasn't gotten the job done in first 2 games

UNITED | D.C. United has had two weeks to contemplate its nightmarish start, its ragged defending and the prospects of beginning a season 0-3 for the first time since 1996.

Heading into Saturday's game at Columbus (0-0-3), D.C. goalkeeper Troy Perkins said time spent practicing and reviewing his team's stumble out of the gate revealed an uncomfortable truth.

"The problem is, we're just not doing our jobs. We're scoring goals, but the back five or six of us were just not doing our jobs. You look back to last year, at the season we had, and we had almost the exact same personnel and the same formation," he said. "We're not playing the way we should be playing or the way a professional team should play."

United appeared slapstick at times, yielding a combined six goals to Colorado and Kansas City, with five coming in the first half. A 2-1 loss in Denver a few days after a taxing game in Mexico wasn't too trou-

bling, but the 4-2 thumping delivered by the Wizards at RFK was a stunner. Now critics have had two weeks to bemoan the club's unwillingness or inability to add defensive help or its stubborn devotion to a three-back formation.

"You laugh about it, but on the flip side, it's a valid point," said Perkins, who did not give up more than one goal in consecutive games at any point last year. "Like I said, it just comes down to doing your job, and that's been the main focus the past 10 days."

Part of that time has been spent forcing the defense to cope with numerical disadvantages, which Perkins said would improve the concentration and decision making that's been lacking so far. There's little indication coach Tom Soehn is ready to add a fourth defender, and there's not much to choose from at this point anyway, other than the little used John Wilson and Devon McTavish.

"We've got a fantastic squad," Perkins insisted. "It's just either a lack of concentration or a lack of being relaxed in certain situations, making mistakes that you know better than to make." **BRIAN STRAUS**



NIGHTLIFE AGENDA

So Swoony: Norwegian singer-songwriter Sondre Lerche returns to D.C. on Sunday with a concert at Georgetown University. | **29**

Entertainment Weekend



FIRST A STONE COLD STUNNER, THEN A COBRA CLUTCH: Steve Austin, left, uses his wrestling skills in "The Condemned."

A Smackdown

'The Condemned' was produced by the WWE — and it shows

FILM | You probably wouldn't expect a movie about hardened killers battling each other to the death to be funny, but here's what's hilarious about "The Condemned": It has the

audacity to serve as a self-righteous indictment of graphic, gratuitous violence, even though that's exactly what it's peddling. A World Wrestling Entertainment film, under the watch of WWE Chairman/Executive Producer Vince McMahon, pretending to have a soul? Yeah, good stuff there.

"The Condemned" also attempts

to dress us down as a society for being such mindless sheep that we'll watch anything shocking — and it scolds the media and entertainment industry for constantly pushing the limits of what's considered shocking. This from the people who made the word "smackdown" part of the American lexicon.

Stone Cold Steve Austin actu-

ally deserves better. The longtime wrestling superstar seems like a likable guy — potentially, a burly action hero in the tradition of Arnold Schwarzenegger, someone who has an intimidating presence but enough of a sense of humor to drop a deadpan one-liner here and there.

"The Condemned," from director Scott Wiper, gives Austin a chance to show off a bit of comic timing, but it's far more interested in his brawn than in whatever brain he might possess beneath that enormous shaved dome of his. (Wiper also co-wrote the script with Rob Hedden. How it took two people to come up with a screenplay that consists mostly of explosions, body blows and kicks to the head is baffling.)

Austin stars as Jack Conrad, one of 10 prisoners plucked from death rows around the world and dropped by helicopter onto a remote island for a deadly reality competition being broadcast live on the Internet. Mad-genius producer Ian Breckel (Robert Mammone) has assembled them to have them kill each other. Whoever is left standing gets to go free — giving a whole new meaning to the word "survivor."

"The Condemned" has a bit more panache and fire to it than the two previous WWE movies: "See No Evil," starring Kane, and "The Marine" with John Cena. It also has headier stuff in mind than those two movies — and that's its pathetic downfall.



CHRISTY LEMIRE (AP)W



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SUSAN BIDDLE/WTWP

Even when it's crowded, Stoney's is the perfect place to scarf a big, juicy burger.

Big Budget, Big Stars, Big Bomb

'Next' had everything going for it — and yet it was totally bungled

FILM | You start with a short story by one of the true sci-fi masters, Philip K. Dick, with an intriguing premise about a guy who can see into his own future and anticipate all possible outcomes of his actions.

Then you bring in an Academy Award-winning star, Nicolas Cage, who while making a lot of bad mov-

ies nevertheless manages to turn most of his action flicks into hits.

Add Oscar nominee Julianne Moore as a tenacious FBI agent and Jessica Biel for grand eye candy, then hire a director, Lee Tamahori, who may be a hack but at least has shown solid action instincts on the James Bond adventure "Die Another Day." Toss in Peter Falk for a crusty cameo and the fine German actor Thomas Kretschmann to play the main Eurotrash villain, who aims to explode a stolen Russian nuke



I FORESEE A BAD MOVIE: Nicolas Cage plays a clairvoyant in the awful "Next."

in Los Angeles, with Moore hunting down Cage so he can tip off the feds about when and where the blast will happen.

That all could work, right? Not even close. The paranormal thriller "Next" shows how a solid crew of filmmakers and performers can apply a big-studio budget to a good idea and still have absolutely everything come out wrong. And a cheap plot twist near the end would be aggravating if it weren't so laughable. DAVID GERMAIN (AP)



I'm looking for fun things to do during the day on Friday.

ArtDC, the city's first international art fair, is certainly something different. More than 80 galleries from around the world will be showing their stuff at the Convention Center. The Georgetown French Market is also going on that day.

→ *ArtDC*, Washington Convention Center, 801 Mount Vernon Place; 866-727-7953. (Mount Vernon Square-7th Street)

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Weekend | Entertainment

Breaking Away

'Diggers' is sensitive & insightful without being sappy or maudlin

FILM | Long before the invasion of celebrities, the Hamptons were, apparently, pretty sedate and unpretentious. We're talking decades ago — like, the 1970s — a place and time the small charmer "Diggers" takes us to with rich storytelling and vivid performances.

Paul Rudd, Ken Marino, Ron Eldard and Josh Hamilton co-star as longtime friends and clam diggers clinging to their livelihood as corporate forces move into their sliver of Long Island. Marino, formerly of the MTV sketch comedy show "The State," also wrote the script. He intended it as an homage to his father, and has created characters who feel incredibly real in the way they support and affectionately needle each other, as well as in their struggles and failures. In the vein of "The Big Chill," "Breaking Away" or "Diner," "Diggers" is sensitive and insightful without ever being maudlin. Think of it as a chick flick for men, though Maura Tierney, Lauren Ambrose and Sarah Paulson fit in beautifully as the strong women in their lives.

Rudd remains likable and as versatile as ever as Hunt, who followed in his dad's footsteps as a clam dig-



SIX FEET UNDER: Lauren Ambrose helps Paul Rudd climb out of a hole in "Diggers."

ger, though the two aren't exactly pals. One morning, Hunt shows up late, as usual, and finds his father slumped over the side of his boat, dead. Eventually he runs through the remorse of not having been there, but first he must ponder how this monumental change might serve as a catalyst in his own life. He could stay in town, like his friends did, like their fathers did, drinking beer and playing pool at their favored working-class dive bar to blow off steam at the end of each long day. It would be easy; it would be safe.

There's Frankie Lazo (Marino), a volatile father of five with his quick-witted wife, Julie (Paul-

son); Jack (Eldard), the womanizer who's secretly begun an affair with Hunt's divorced sister Gina (Tierney); and Cons (Hamilton), the group's scrawny philosopher and town pot dealer.

Or Hunt could — gasp — actually leave and go somewhere else, be someone else, pursue his own interests for once, something he feels inspired to do after spending time with stylish Manhattanite Zoe (Ambrose), who's in town for the summer. Is his eventual choice pretty obvious? Maybe. But getting there takes humor and heart, both of which "Diggers" has plenty. CHRISTY LEMIRE (AP)



FILM | BONNIE 'PRINCE' BILLY'S BACK



COURTESY AFI

WITH "THE GUATEMALAN HANDSHAKE," starting Friday at AFI, Will Oldham returns to the big screen for the first time in years as an oddball demolition derby driver. He disappears from his small mountain town after a massive power failure, which sets off a mysterious chain of events that culminate in, natch, a massive demolition derby. (EXPRESS)

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300 (R, 105 minutes) This cartoonified version of a hard day's work on the coast of Greece, where 300 Spartans stood against a much larger horde of Persians, fails to offer any theories of Spartan greatness. The movie makes no arguments at all; it's entirely an overblown visual document with an IQ in the lower 20s. The action is all showy and stylized, never quite realistic. Director Zack Snyder overdoes the slow motion until it becomes comic, and the whole package aestheticizes violence, leaching its meaning, distancing us. (SH)

AFTER THE WEDDING (R, 120 minutes) This Danish film, nominated for a Best Foreign Language Film Oscar earlier this year, cuts to the core of who we are, who we belong to and where we come from. It's the story of Jacob (Mads Mikkelsen), the director of an orphanage in Mumbai, and Jorgen (Rolf Lassgard), a Danish benefactor who offers to donate millions to the home, provided that Jacob leaves his beloved kids to administer the orphanage from Denmark. The stalemate between Jacob and Jorgen is just a prelude to more intriguing and fatalistic developments that draw them together. It is finely textured drama, thanks to the performers, who make their characters so persuasive and 3-D we're too mesmerized to care about the story's more overwrought or histrionic passages. (DT)

AQUA TEEN HUNGER FORCE COLON MOVIE FILM FOR THEATERS (R, 87 minutes) This movie, in which a pack of french fries, a wad of ground beef and a milkshake save the world—or at least, New Jersey—from a psychotic giant exercise machine built 70,000 years ago by aliens, is a work of either a profoundly transgressive genius or a goofball high on Pez and patio sealant. The work of Matt Maiellaro and Dave Willis is an outgrowth of their television show on the Cartoon Network. The animated 87 minutes feel pretty much beyond description; only the film's repercussions can be charted, and they include spastic laughter, drool collecting in your lap, defibrillation, oxygen debt, panic attacks and loss of bodily fluids, until, abruptly, about minute 72, when hilarity returns in the last minute with the line, "I am your mother, a nine-layer bean burrito." (SH)

ARE WE DONE YET? (PG, 87 minutes)



MATT NETTHEIM/FOCUS FEATURES

PEACHY 'FUZZ': Nick Frost (left) and Simon Pegg reprise their "Shawn of the Dead" chemistry in the cop comedy "Hot Fuzz."

Following up on his execrable 2005 semi-hit "Are We There Yet?," Ice Cube once again turns the world off with a scowl in this remake of the classic 1948 Cary Grant comedy "Mr. Blandings Builds His Dream House." Cube's Nick Persons, having survived a cross-country road trip with his girlfriend, Suzanne (Nia Long), and her two brats (Aleisha Allen and Philip Bolden), has married Suzanne. She announces she's pregnant—with twins. Nick decides to move his burgeoning family to a huge money pit outside Portland, Ore. What, you've seen "The Money Pit"? And "Mr. Blandings"? Then you've seen this movie, whose only additions are a talking raccoon, a manic real estate agent/contractor and a subplot involving sturgeon. (AH)

AVENUE MONTAIGNE (R, 100 minutes) This delicately charming fable set in Paris offers the kind of experience we secretly crave when we visit any great city: meaningful encounters with its people. At the center is Jessica (an impishly radiant Cécile De France), a sweetheated gamine from the provinces who has just arrived in the capital. To this country girl, Paris is the city of luxury, a picture-postcard world of hotels, expensive restaurants and fine living. This vicarious sojourn in Paris leaves us with souvenirs that few real trips could ever produce. (DT)

BLACK BOOK (R, 45 minutes) This Dutch film tells the story of Rachel Stein (Carice van Houten), a Jewish cabaret singer trying to survive the Third Reich in the Netherlands in 1944. An errant bomb turns the farm where she has been hiding into a funeral pyre, and Rachel is on the run. Soon enough, she's reunited with her family and becomes the only survivor of an SS massacre. Indeed, massa-

cres come fast and furious, as does a plot that shunts through developments faster than a dealer can shuffle a deck of cards. On and on it goes, with hardly a dull moment, but far too many lively ones (lots of machine guns) and, more disturbingly, quite a few repulsive ones. (SH)

BLADES OF GLORY (PG-13, 93 minutes) Will Ferrell and Jon Heder sashay into the graceful world of figure skating, playing two competitors who have been banned

from the rink and learn that the only loophole that might permit them back onto the ice is to skate as a pairs team. Lumbering, hairy Ferrell plays the overcompensating Chazz Michael Michaels. Heder plays Jimmy MacElroy, slighter, wispier, more graceful, more girly. The endless hilarity is visual: those awkward male bodies thrown into a gossamer flutter of swan-like routines, clumsily syncopating themselves to the fantasy that they are light and

graceful when, as all can see and laugh at, they are hopeless, clueless and graceless. To see seemingly regular guys utterly stripped of dignity and defense is cruel enough, but crueler still is the laughter that you cannot seem to stop from rupturing your lungs and aorta. (SH)

BOY CULTURE (Unrated, 88 minutes) The short film "Rick & Steve: The Happiest Gay Couple in All the World" — which is cast to amusing effect with Lego people doing things that undoubtedly must horrify the Lego company — was enjoyable, and the prospect of seeing a feature film by director Q. Allan Brocka seemed promising. But this movie, based on a 1995 novel by Matthew Rettenmund, feels about as fresh as such an artifact of mercurial gay culture could. It chronicles the romantic awakening of a Seattle prostitute identified as X (Derek Magyar). What X mostly desires is the financial independence and emotional distance his career helps him maintain. If anything about this scenario sounds remotely interesting, it's not. Opportunities for dramatic tension, comedic effect, erotic energy, even just flat-out weirdness — all are squandered in a haze of blandness. (JONATHAN PADGET)

BRIDGE TO TERABITHIA (PG, 96 minutes) This beloved children's book has not just survived but thrived in its adaptation to the screen, its delicate combi-

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nation of coming-of-age angst, tragedy and fantasy handled with assurance and taste by first-time live-action director Gabor Csupo. Audiences should be prepared for a major tragedy that strikes in the third act; the film winds up being a lesson, not just in love but in loss. But mostly the former, as Jess experiences for the first time that true love means building a world together. (AH)

DISTURBIA (PG-13, 104 minutes) The much-maligned suburbs take another hit on the big screen. Shia LaBeouf plays Kale, a young man under house arrest for punching out his high school Spanish teacher. The teach sort of had it coming, having invoked the memory of Kale's dad, who died in a car accident. Things get mighty boring at home, and Kale picks up binoculars to check in on his neighbors. His subjects include the adulterous businessman across the street, porn-watching adolescents next door and a hot new neighbor (Sarah Roemer). But it's that

quiet guy in the blue house (David Morse) who really intrigues Kale. Despite going down a seemingly predictable road, the movie takes enough turns to keep you guessing. The ending, though, drags, and the film quickly shifts from a clever homage to "Rear Window" to a bad parody of "The Silence of the Lambs." (JOHN MAYNARD)

FIREHOUSE DOG (PG, 111 minutes) Fire captain Connor Fahey (Bruce Greenwood) is recovering from the morale-shattering loss of his brother, another firefighter. He has a son named Shane (Josh Hutcherson), also bummed by his uncle's death (but for a different reason). One day, into Shane's life comes some kind of spiffy bounder. The mutt is Rexxx the wonder dog, the big Hollywood star who has been accidentally separated from his posh celeb's life. It doesn't take Shane long to figure out that he has the world's best firehouse dog: fast, smart, brave, loyal. The movie is best in depicting firehouse culture, and the movie has a couple of nice saves, always good for a tear or two. (SH)

FRACTURE (R, 98 minutes) Anthony Hopkins plays an aeronautical engi-



YARI FILM GROUP/RELEASING

HE HAS MATCHING LEG WARMERS, TOO

Skool House Rocks

"**KICKIN IT OLD SKOOL**" looks like a movie that even Pauly Shore would turn down. Revived after a 20-year coma, a break-dance champion (Jamie Kennedy) must learn to compete in a world where hip-hop and gangsta rap have replaced the sounds of the '80s. Having exhausted his white-guy-does-rap persona in the dreadful "Malibu's Most Wanted," there's nothing Kennedy can do in "Kickin It Old Skool" that will be remotely interesting or funny — but perhaps the cameos by has-beens David Hasselhoff, Erik Estrada and Emmanuel Lewis will provide some pep. Hey, just trying to stay positive, yo. (EXPRESS)

neer with a wife who is cheating on him. The husband tracks her to a hotel room, where she and her boyfriend cavort. That evening, she comes home and he shoots her. The old man surrenders and confesses. The case is given to a young prosecutor (Ryan Gosling) who's in his last week in the job and doesn't prepare for the initial hearing with quite the same passion as he might have and walks into a buzz saw. The geezer has tricked them all. The good part about this OK, but way less than great, thriller is that you won't notice how cheesy it is until the heartburn from the popcorn has eased. In these jaded times, that's a bargain. (SH)

GRINDHOUSE (R, 191 minutes) What truly grinds in this film, a Quentin Tarantino-Robert Rodriguez double feature, is your butt against the seat. Checking in at more than three hours, it's one grand self-indulgence calibrated exquisitely for an audience that pines for the gory double-feature pleasures of movie forms that petered out in the early '70s. That audience can be counted: two. Named Tarantino and Rodriguez. The films (Rodriguez directed the first, "Planet Terror," and Tarantino the second, "Death Proof") are bloody,

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stupid and buoyant in a kind of infantile way, celebrating mayhem, flesh and gore. (SH)

THE HOAX (R, 116 minutes) This film is based on the true story of Clifford Irving, whose "authorized autobiography" of reclusive billionaire Howard Hughes in the early 1970s was exposed as a fake. As the movie tells it, Irving (Richard Gere) was an opportunist, an adulterer and a scoundrel, with mounting bills and the ill-advised chutzpah to fool McGraw-Hill into giving him a million dollars for an empty promise. It's too bad the pristine simplicity of Irving's greed is not enough to galvanize the movie. At first, we're intrigued by how far Irving will take his ruse, but we never establish an emotional connection with him. Even though we're caught up in his derring-do as he beguiles entire meeting rooms of jaded publishers and editors, we're kept at a dissatisfying distance from Irving and the movie. (DT)

THE HOST (Unrated, 119 minutes) This

Korean film has such a wide range of attributes—it's a comedy, it's a vivid evocation of a dysfunctional family that comes together in crisis, it's a wondrous homage to the courage of children, it's a biting critique of the government—that it's hard to recall that it's first and foremost a monster movie—an old-fashioned monster movie with a heart. (SH)

HOT FUZZ (R, 121 minutes) The hilarious zombie satire "Shaun of the Dead" seemed to arrive out of nowhere in 2004, written by actor Simon Pegg and co-written and directed by Edgar Wright, two Brits best known for supporting roles and TV work, respectively. The team is back with this takeoff on Hollywood action flicks at their most ludicrously macho. Pegg plays a by-the-book police sergeant named Nicholas Angel, who is transferred to a little town called Sandford. There, he is teamed with a dullard named Danny Butterman (Nick Frost), and a series of mysterious deaths transpire. The film could easily have lost 20 minutes or so in jittery montages and stylized set pieces, but for viewers in the mood for smart-stupid slapstick, it's a diverting jape. (AH)



INTO GREAT SILENCE (Unrated, 162 minutes) At first, the silence feels imposing as we watch this documentary and the monks of the Grand Chartreuse monastery praying, reading the Bible or simply sitting in quiet contemplation. But as we become acclimated to this muted atmosphere, something extraordinary happens: Our senses sharpen. The whispering of snow, the clearing of a throat and the clanging of a bell that summons the Carthusians to prayer reach our ears with a resounding purity. We may not experience their inner glories, but when we hear the monks' Gregorian chants, it's as though we have slipped into the back pews of Chartreuse. By luring us into their hushed world, filmmaker Philip Groening subtly provokes us into an active state of observation. It's hard to recall a similar documentary that brings viewers so palpably close to that sacred experience. (DT)

JOURNEY FROM THE FALL (R, 135 minutes)

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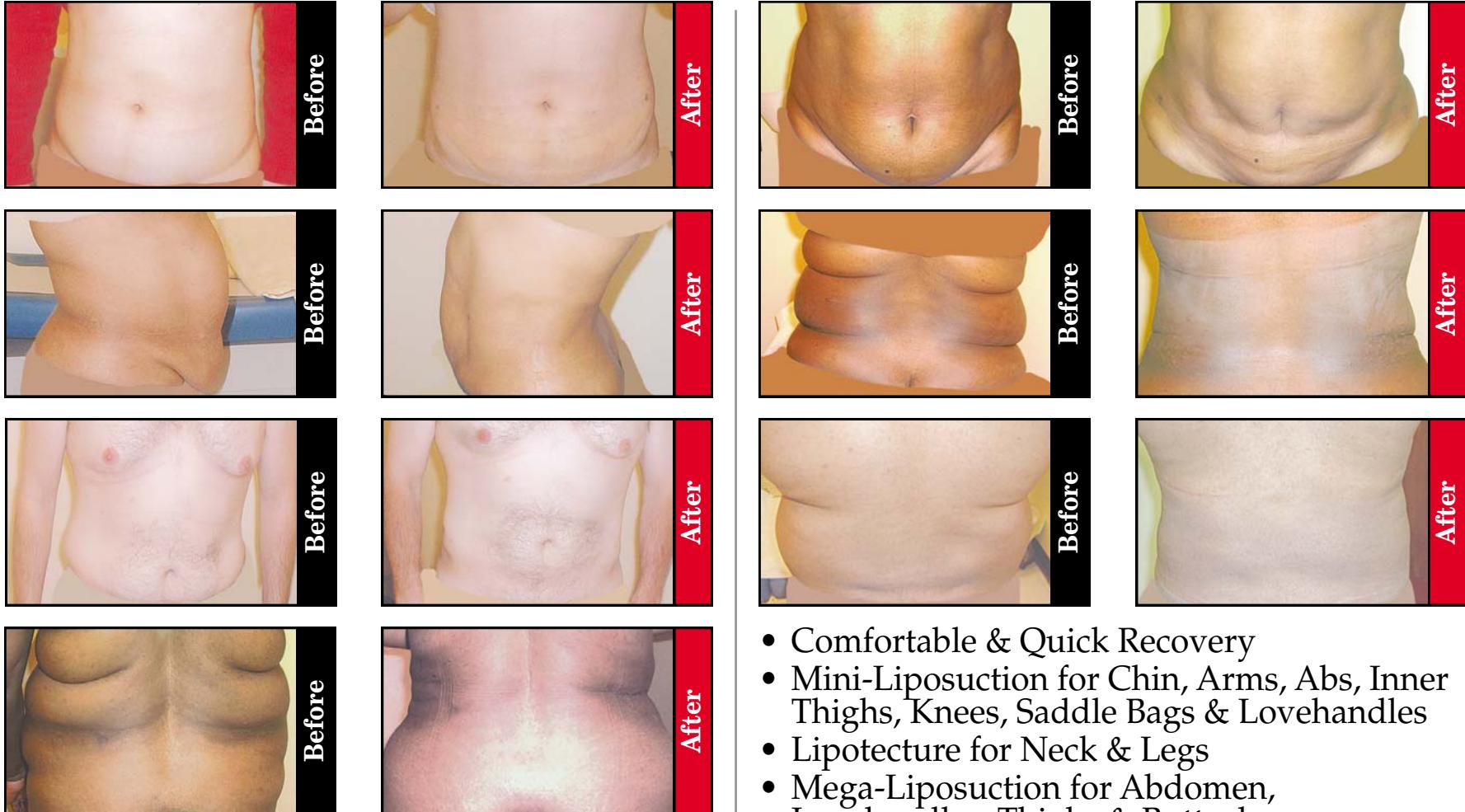


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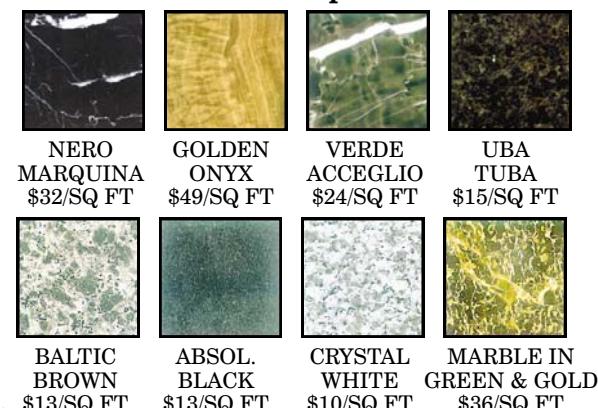
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utes) This film has been called the Vietnamese "Schindler's List," in that it documents a harrowing reality that befell a people. A family—the father a soldier in South Vietnam's long and losing war against the North Vietnamese and the Viet Cong—wakes up one bitter morning to find the Americans gone and the new rulers making arrests. Father is sent to a reeducation camp, which is a pretty term for a concentration camp, and mother, wife and children are consigned to a slum. The movie, written and directed by Ham Tran and featuring amateur actors who went through all this, demonstrates the unquenchable human need for freedom as the family attempts separate escapes. A Hollywood version would conjure a nice, happy ending, but there are no happy endings. It's a tough sit, but its lessons shouldn't be forgotten. (SH)

THE LAST MIMZY (PG, 90 minutes) This movie is about the escalating adventures of two Seattle children who discover a mysterious black cube that proves to be a Pandora's box of scary dimension. Unfortunately, it triggers more intriguing ideas than it has the storytelling acumen to consolidate. When Noah Wilder



TATIANA KANAYEVA/SONY PICTURES CLASSICS

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A Family Affair

AN ITALIAN COUPLE goes to northern Russia, near the Finnish border, to adopt a child. But "The Italian" isn't a simple tale of adoption; it works as a metaphor for the disparities between Eastern and Western Europe. This is the first feature film by Andrei Kravchuk, known for his documentaries. But the story of "The Italian" is based in reality: It was inspired by a newspaper account of a boy who ran away from his orphanage and found his mother. (EXPRESS)

(Chris O'Neil) and younger sister Emma (Rhiannon Leigh Wryn) open the box, outcome various objects, including a shell encrusted with something crystalline, a square piece of glass with strange sym-

bols and a stuffed bunny Emma immediately identifies as Mimzy. The objects afford both children extraordinary powers. Based on Lewis Padgett's short story, it references a confusing array of New

Age and science-fiction ideas; it's hard to get a bead on what we're watching. The best element is a subplot involving Noah's spiritually obsessed teacher (Rainn Wilson) and his wacky girlfriend (Kathryn Hahn), whose bumbling eccentricities give the movie an emotional liveliness it otherwise lacks. (DT)

THE LIVES OF OTHERS (R, 137 minutes)

This German movie begins in 1984, when the secret police, or Stasi, routinely bugged, tailed and intimidated its citizens. Plotted as tautly as a cop procedural but playing more like a modern allegory, this film personalizes its Orwellian world through the eyes of Gerd Wiesler (Ulrich Muehe), a frosty Stasi officer. To watch this film is not just to enjoy a fabulously constructed timepiece; it's to appreciate a deft cautionary tale. (DT)

MEET THE ROBINSONS (G, 92 minutes)

This animated feature (showing in 3-D in select theaters) is the story of an orphan named Lewis (voiced by Daniel Hansen and Jordan Fry) who yearns to be an inventor and is whisked into a futuristic world by a kid named Wilbur (Wesley Singerman). At first, it seems to be one of those foundling dramas that perpetuates the most unfortunate myths about adoption. But everything—including that issue—turns out OK in the end, as director Stephen J. Anderson not only creates a visually arresting version of the

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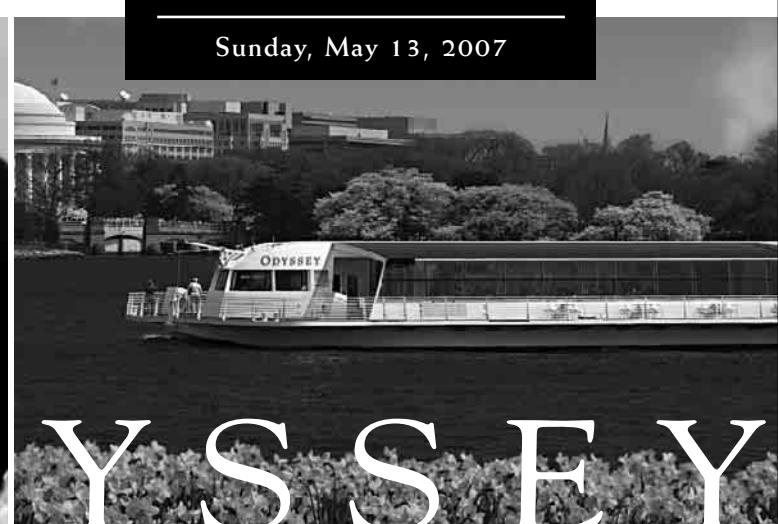
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future but a terrific story as well. The visuals are dominated by bright reds and turquoise, and the seeming cast of thousands includes a band of jazz-playing frogs. (AH)

THE NAMESAKE (PG-13, 117 minutes) This film begins in the late 1970s on a train to Calcutta when a young man, Ashoke Ganguli (Irfan Khan), meets a passenger, who encourages him to see the world. It is the combination of this meeting, the calamitous event that fol-

lows and the short story he is reading at the time that sets Ashoke's future. After marrying Ashima (Tabu), he immigrates to America and starts a new life. Like the best-selling novel it's based on, this movie chronicles two generations of an immigrant family with compelling flow. Although we miss some of the finer details that made Jhumpa Lahiri's book so meaningful, we're moved by the movie's themes of cultural displacement and the power of chance. (DT)

PATHFINDER (R, 100 minutes) The time is roughly 500 years before the arrival of Columbus on what would become North American shores. The setting is therefore the de rigueur idealization of pre-

Columbian America as some kind of paradise. Enter the Vikings in their long ships, with their iron swords and arrowheads, their forged spears and their unquenchable zeal for slaughter. "Ho, ho, ho," they laugh, confident of their destiny. Did I tell you? Almost no dialogue. Although the record shows that American Indians were extremely adaptable warriors, here they never get it, and it falls to their white savior (who was raised in the tribe) to out-fight the Vikings. Was this really necessary? (SH)

PERFECT STRANGER (R, 110 minutes)

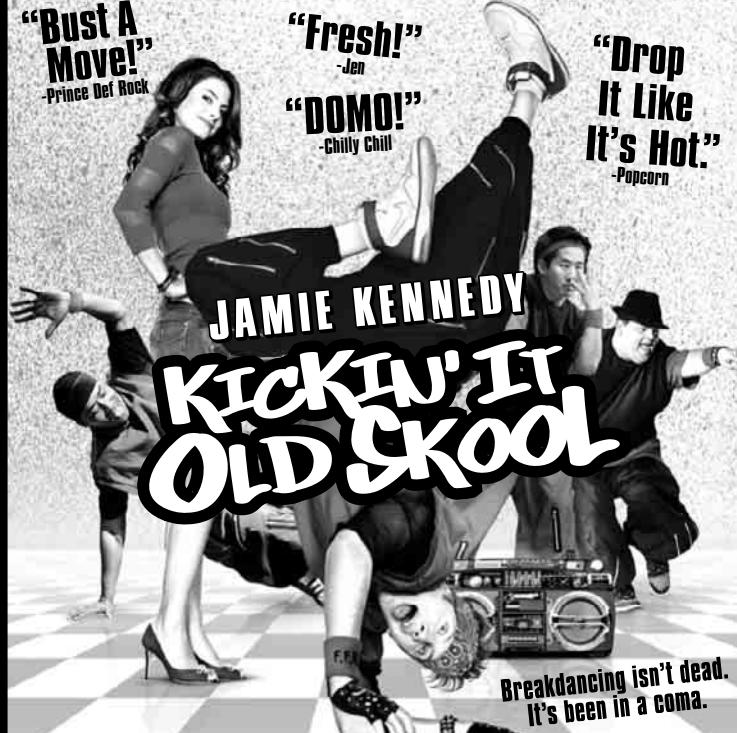
Halle Berry plays a New York reporter who specializes in getting the goods. Quickly enough, Berry's Rowena is

approached by an old friend named Grace (Nicki Aycox), who dumps a load of woe on her. Grace began an illicit relationship with a prominent ad exec who is now trying to dump her. She hopes that Rowena will help her in a revenge plot. She turns over a batch of documents and then conveniently is found dead. Suddenly, Rowena is engaged at the thought of bringing down another fat cat. The movie is just another thriller in town for a few desultory weeks until it heads off to a mild afterlife on DVD and then richly deserved oblivion. (SH)

PRIDE (PG, 104 minutes) This film follows an African-American swim team's bid for medals and self-respect. We are

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approached by an old friend named Grace (Nicki Aycox), who dumps a load of woe on her. Grace began an illicit relationship with a prominent ad exec who is now trying to dump her. She hopes that Rowena will help her in a revenge plot. She turns over a batch of documents and then conveniently is found dead. Suddenly, Rowena is engaged at the thought of bringing down another fat cat. The movie is just another thriller in town for a few desultory weeks until it heads off to a mild afterlife on DVD and then richly deserved oblivion. (SH)

PERFECT STRANGER (R, 110 minutes)

Halle Berry plays a New York reporter who specializes in getting the goods. Quickly enough, Berry's Rowena is

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in Philadelphia as Jim Ellis (Terrence Howard), a talented swimmer, accepts the only job he can as a black coach in the mid-1970s: at a run-down sports center in a poor neighborhood. The movie, inspired by the true story of Ellis, has Hollywood formula practically stitched to its Speedo. But the characters and the actors who play them are so captivating, we're too entertained and charmed to notice. (DT)

THE REAPING (R, 96 minutes) When rivers turn red, locusts swarm and cows shrivel into scorched beef, you know that either Al Gore was right or you're watching another bad supernatural thriller. In this case, you are suffering through this pretentious scarefest. Frogs, maggots and other familiar pestilences from the book of Exodus are terrorizing a small Louisiana town. We are supposed to decipher these strange phenomena through a frenzied barrage of freaky images, obvious computer-generated effects and dizzying editing. But the script only follows the clichés of the genre. (DT)

REDLINE (PG-13, 95 minutes) Exotic cars race and crash in this action film, directed by Andy Cheng.

TMNT (PG, 90 minutes) This is the fourth in a series chronicling the adventures of the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles, who live under the streets of New York and come out to fight for truth, justice and pizza by night, but it's the first to arrive in complete computer-generated imagery. That's not bad, that's good: Seeing actual humans in the roles of mutated terrapins with samurai swords and burglar masks was too much of a stretch. It's a far grittier, grungier kind of New York than in the previous films, and the detail has been worked out to a thoroughly impressive degree. Only on one issue does the movie flop: its plot. Or rather its plots, all 16. The upshot is that the film is technically superb and quite enjoyable. (SH)

THE TV SET (R, 87 minutes) David Duchovny plays a career television writer named Mike who finally gets the chance to bring a personal project to the small screen: "The Wexler Chronicles," a semi-autobiographical dramedy about a guy returning home after his brother's suicide. The film proceeds to dissect with excruciating precision just how good ideas get hijacked by the System, embodied by the lethally funny Sigourney Weaver as a venal network suit who has a hit show called "Slut Wars." From script-pitching soccer moms to the Orwellian rhetoric of agents and managers, the



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JEAN RENOIR'S 1939 film "The Rules of the Game" is often regarded as one of the greatest films ever, a comedy of manners that doubles as a scathing critique of French society. Set in a weekend hunting party, the movie sets up the aristocrats and the servants as separate but equal, with the randy ways of the supposedly superior rich people mirroring those of the help. This re-release is a complete digital restoration of Renoir's original version, which was cut 23 minutes soon after its initial release and whose negative was destroyed in World War II. (EXPRESS)

film presents for our consideration the myriad concessions, compromises and cop-outs that get the Hollywood types addicted to drugs and viewers addicted to dreck. (AH)

VACANCY (R, 80 minutes) This is just another motel-hell horror flick in which an attractive couple discovers that "room service" isn't about clean towels and champagne so much as getting stabbed and videotaped for snufffilms. For horror fans who appreciate a bit of craft with their second-rate experiences, this might merit a future late-night rental. (DT)

WILD HOGS (PG-13, 105 minutes) This movie, starring John Travolta, William H. Macy, Martin Lawrence and Tim Allen, is another tale of almost-old men feeling so out of sorts that only a road trip can help. The boys decide to make that trip on that road, courtesy of some Milwaukee iron. Calling themselves the Wild Hogs, the four Cincinnatians set out to recover whatever it is they lost. But the movie never rises to the level of the professional, much less the comic. The gags are witless and surprisingly gross. (SH)

THE WIND THAT SHAKES THE BARLEY (Unrated, 127 minutes) This film, set far outside Dublin in the 1920s, recounts the escalating violence between the IRA squaddies and the Black and Tans, the brutal, repressive domestic police force the British put in place to put the former down. We begin with the younger brother,

Damien (Cillian Murphy), sick and tired of the strife, trying to get out and go to Britain. On his last day in the auld sod, however, Damien and his buds are set upon by a group of Tans, and bullying soon becomes murder, as a young boy is shot for refusing to speak English. Director Ken Loach is full of astonishments. He stages raid and counter-raid, big gunfight and small, with stunning dynamism. He's as fluent as any Hollywood pro who has been fighting war on celluloid for a couple of decades. (SH)

YEAR OF THE DOG (PG-13, 97 minutes) TV and film writer Mike White makes his directorial debut with this film, delivering another weirdly dark but funny story, this time about a lonely secretary and devoted dog owner named Peggy (Molly Shannon), who, after the death of her beloved beagle, spins into a vortex of grief, overcompensation and, finally, a terrifying breakdown. John C. Reilly and Peter Sarsgaard play romantic interests with issues of their own. The movie is awkwardly staged and uneven in tone, but it becomes a cathartic portrait of a woman unapologetically owning her desires. (AH)

REVIEWS BY THE WASHINGTON POST'S ANN HORNADAY, STEPHEN HUNTER, MICHAEL O'SULLIVAN, DESSON THOMSON AND TERESA WILTZ. FOR MORE CAPSULES AND FULL REVIEWS OF THESE AND OTHER FILMS, SEE WASHINGTONGPOST.COM/ENTERTAINMENT

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STERLING STERLING Regal Cinemas

MERRIFIELD MERRIFIELD Nat'l Amusements

ARLINGTON Arlington Blvd/Lee Highway Multiplex Cinemas

Entertainment | Weekend

Nightlife Agenda

WHAT DO YOU WANT TO DO TONIGHT? BY FRITZ HAHN, RHOME ANDERSON AND DAVID MALITZ

FRIDAY

SANEL DEMPSTER performed in a number of Trinidadian soca groups throughout the 1990s, but it was her victory in the Road March musical competition during the 1999 Trinidad and Tobago Carnival that catapulted her into the international spotlight. It's not just that, in winning the title, she was following in the footsteps of the Mighty Sparrow and Superblue; her performance on the relentlessly peppy "De River" made Dempster the first woman to take the title in more than two decades. The following year, she won the International Soca Queen competition, cementing her place among the Caribbean music royalty. Dempster's performing live at **ZANZIBAR** tonight, alongside all the usual top-boy DJs (Superslice, Andy Mix, Hazzard) spinning soca, reggae and other Caribbean rhythms. Tickets are \$15 in advance from myxradio.com and more at the door.

Three DJs with their own electro/hip-hop/classics nights are joining forces at the **BLACK CAT** for a backstage party called **STRFKR**. We've raved about **DAVE NADA** in this space before, thanks to the extremely dope Crowd Control monthly and his turntable wizardry during Vegetate's happy hour, so if you haven't checked him out, go, go, go. Also on the bill are DJs **STEREOFATH**, who runs the Cat's Sorted night, and **PEOPLE'S CHAMPION**, the man on the turntables at Wonderland's electrokrunk weekly See You Next Tuesday. Admission is \$6. Doors open at 9 p.m.

SATURDAY

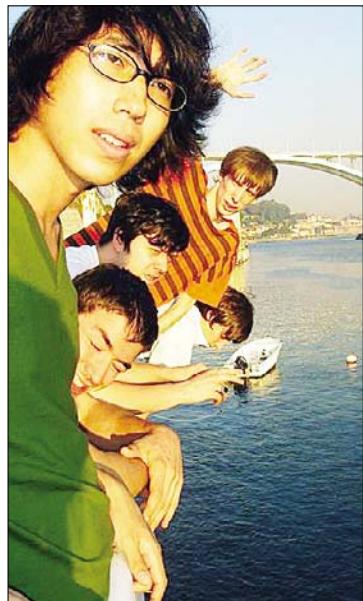
THE WRENS inhabit that same realm of indie rock as acts like the Hold Steady and Ted Leo. They might not be the biggest names in the world, but to their most die-hard fans, it simply doesn't get any better. For the Wrens, the passion of those fans is always matched by the band whenever the New Jersey quartet takes the stage to play its refreshingly straightforward take on classic indie rock. Over



LIKE BIRDS ON A WIRE: The Wrens will indie rock Georgetown U on Saturday.

nearly two decades together, the Wrens have just three albums to their credit, which is a good thing and a bad thing. Bad, because it would, obviously, be nice to have more material from such a solid band, but good because you are certain to hear plenty of classics from 2003's "The Meadowlands" and 1996's "Secaucus" at live shows. Tonight's concert is part of **GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY'S SPRING MUSIC FESTIVAL**, which will be held on campus at the Walsh Building's black box theater at 36th and N streets NW. On Sunday night, loungey, jazzy Norwegian singer-songwriter **SONDRE LERCHE** performs in the same space, also for the shockingly low price of \$8. The shows start at 7:30 p.m.

The folks at **ARTOMATIC** have put together an all-day event on Saturday to benefit the **HOKIE SPIRIT MEMORIAL FUND**, which will help with grief



HOTLANTA'S FINEST ROCKERS: Deerhunter checks into the Rock and Roll Hotel.

counseling, memorials, communication and comfort expenses in the wake of the Virginia Tech tragedy. The lineup for Hokie Spirit is still being finalized, but bands scheduled to perform include **THE HINT**, **THE RESERVES**, **BELLMAN BARKER** and **WES TUCKER & THE SKILLET**. The concert starts at 1 p.m. and is scheduled to go a full 12 hours, so there will be plenty of time for you to check out some local music and local art while donating some money to a worthy cause.

SUNDAY

An early leader for album of the year has to be "Cryptograms," the second effort from retro-future rockers **DEERHUNTER**. Retro-future rockers: "Isn't that some sort of oxymoron," you may say? Probably, but it's still a fitting tag for the Atlanta quintet, which stirs up an intoxicating mix of old-school blips and bleeps, droning guitar, pounding drums and spastic vocals. Well, spastic everything, really. Half of the songs on "Cryptograms" are experimental instrumentals that are more about texture than anything else, but more traditional songs like the title track and "Lake Somerset" are balls of nervous energy that build until they hit inevitably chaotic peaks. It's simply mesmerizing stuff, and the band's show tonight at the **ROCK AND ROLL HOTEL** with local sludge rockers **THE APES** and noisy Brooklynites **PTERO-DACTYL** is not to be missed.

And remember: **SONDRE LERCHE** (see Saturday listing, under the Wrens) plays tonight at Georgetown University.

An extended version of "Nightlife Agenda" is always available at www.washingtonpost.com/cityguide

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DIGITAL 3D

MEET THE ROBINSONS IN DISNEY DIGITAL 3-D (G) (10:30 @ \$7), 1:25, 4:15, 6:45, 9:25
 THE CONDEMNED (R) ✓ (11:15 @ \$5), 2:05, 5:00, 7:45, 10:45
 THE INVISIBLE (PG13) ✓ (11:05 @ \$5), 1:20, 4:20, 7:30, 9:35, 12:10
 KICKIN' IT OLD SKOOL (PG13) (10:45 @ \$5), 1:30, 4:10, 7:00, 9:25, 12:15
 NEXT (PG13) ✓ (11:30 @ \$5), 2:15, 4:45, 7:30, 10:15
 FRACTURE (R) ✓ (11:35 @ \$5), 2:25, 5:10, 7:50, 10:30
 HOT FUZZ (R) ✓ (10:40 @ \$5), 1:40, 4:40, 7:40, 10:25
 IN THE LAND OF WOMEN (PG13) ✓ (11:20 @ \$5), 1:50, 4:25, 7:15, 9:40
 IN THE LAND OF WOMEN (PG13) (CG) ✓ (11:20 @ \$5), 1:50, 4:25, 7:15, 9:40
 VACANCY (R) ✓ (10:05 @ \$5), 1:10, 2:20, 4:10, 5:25, 5:50, 5:40, 7:30, 8:00, 9:50, 10:10, 12:00
 DISTURBIA (PG13) (10:50 @ \$5), 12:30, 1:35, 3:00, 4:15, 5:30, 7:10, 8:10, 9:45, 10:45, 12:15
 PATHFINDER (R) (11:40 @ \$5), 2:10, 4:55, 7:35, 10:00
 PERFECT STRANGER (R) (11:10 @ \$5), 12:00, 1:55, 2:35, 4:35, 5:15, 7:25, 7:55, 10:30
 GRINDHOUSE (R) (10:00 @ \$5), 2:00, 6:00, 9:55
 THE REAPING (R) (10:25 @ \$5), 12:30, 3:15, 5:50, 8:15, 10:40
 ARE WE DONE YET? (PG) (10:55 @ \$5), 1:20, 4:00, 6:50, 9:10
 BLADES OF GLORY (PG13) (10:20 @ \$5), 12:30, 3:15, 5:10, 5:45, 7:25, 8:05, 9:45, 10:35
 MEET THE ROBINSONS (G) (11:45 @ \$5), 2:20, 4:50
 SHOOTER (R) (10:00 @ \$5), 12:55, 4:05, 7:00, 10:05
 AMC SELECT
 AQUA TEEN HUNGER FORCE COLON MOVIE FILM FOR THEATERS (R) (10:35 @ \$5), 1:05, 3:40, 5:55, 8:20, 10:35

LOEWS GEORGETOWN 14
311 K Street, N.W.
202-342-6441

DIGITAL 3D

MEET THE ROBINSONS IN DISNEY DIGITAL 3-D (G) (12:20, 2:50, 5:10, 7:55, 10:35)
 THE CONDEMNED (R) ✓ (2:15, 5:00, 7:45, 10:30)
 THE INVISIBLE (PG13) ✓ (15:0, 4:25, 7:00, 9:35, 12:05)
 NEXT (PG13) ✓ (12:00, 2:40, 4:15, 7:45, 9:45, 12:10)
 FRACTURE (R) ✓ (12:00, 2:30, 5:10, 8:00, 10:45)
 HOT FUZZ (R) ✓ (1:45, 4:35, 7:30, 10:25)
 IN THE LAND OF WOMEN (PG13) ✓ (12:00, 2:20, 4:50, 7:25, 10:30)
 VACANCY (R) ✓ (12:30, 2:45, 4:55, 7:05, 9:25, 11:45)
 VACANCY (R) (CG) ✓ (12:30, 2:45, 4:55, 7:05, 9:25, 11:45)
 DISTURBIA (PG13) (1:55, 2:40, 6:55, 8:30, 12:00)
 THE HOAX (R) 5:15, 8:05, 10:50
 PERFECT STRANGER (R) ✓ (2:00, 4:40, 7:20, 10:10)
 GRINDHOUSE (R) 1:15
 BLADES OF GLORY (PG13) 1:50, 4:10, 6:45, 8:15, 11:40
 AMC SELECT
 YEAR OF THE DOG (PG13) ✓ (12:00, 3:20, 5:45, 8:15, 10:40)
 THE NAMESAKE (PG13) (1:20, 4:15, 7:10, 10:20)

AMC SPRINGFIELD MALL 10
Loisdale and Franconia Road
703-971-3991

THE CONDEMNED (R) ✓ (12:00, 2:35, 5:10, 7:50, 10:30)
 THE INVISIBLE (PG13) ✓ (12:00, 2:45, 5:15, 7:45, 10:15)
 NEXT (PG13) ✓ (12:15, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00)
 FRACTURE (R) ✓ (1:30, 3:40, 7:30, 10:20)
 IN THE LAND OF WOMEN (PG13) ✓ (1:45, 4:15, 7:00, 9:30)
 VACANCY (R) ✓ (1:00, 3:15, 5:40, 8:00, 10:00)
 DISTURBIA (PG13) (12:15, 2:50, 5:15, 7:45, 10:15)
 PERFECT STRANGER (R) 9:45 PM
 ARE WE DONE YET? (PG) (12:00, 2:45, 5:00, 7:15)
 BLADES OF GLORY (PG13) (1:00, 3:30, 5:45, 8:00, 10:30)
 MEET THE ROBINSONS (G) (1:45, 4:30, 7:00, 9:30)

LOEWS RIO CINEMAS 18
9811 Washingtonian Boulevard
301-948-0906

DIGITAL 3D

MEET THE ROBINSONS IN DISNEY DIGITAL 3-D (G) (11:40 @ \$7), 2:15, 4:50, 7:10, 9:50
 THE CONDEMNED (R) ✓ (10:00 @ \$5), 12:35, 3:10, 5:50, 8:30, 11:00
 THE INVISIBLE (PG13) ✓ (10:05 @ \$5), 12:40, 3:10, 5:40, 8:10, 10:50
 KICKIN' IT OLD SKOOL (PG13) (10:45 @ \$5), 1:30, 4:15, 7:00, 9:45
 NEXT (PG13) ✓ (11:10 @ \$5), 1:35, 4:15, 7:20, 10:05
 FRACTURE (R) ✓ (11:30 @ \$5), 1:40, 4:20, 7:00, 9:40
 HOT FUZZ (R) ✓ (10:35 @ \$5), 1:20, 4:00, 7:10, 10:05
 IN THE LAND OF WOMEN (PG13) ✓ (11:30 @ \$5), 2:00, 4:30, 7:05, 9:50
 VACANCY (R) (10:10 @ \$5), 2:30, 4:35, 6:40, 8:50, 11:00
 DISTURBIA (PG13) (10:20 @ \$5), 12:50, 3:15, 5:45, 8:15, 10:40
 THE HOAX (R) (11:50 @ \$5), 6:50, 9:30
 PERFECT STRANGER (R) (10:50 @ \$5), 1:40, 4:20, 7:10, 10:00
 REDLINE (PG13) (10:10 @ \$5), 12:40, 3:00, 5:35, 8:00, 10:30
 GRINDHOUSE (R) 2:40
 ARE WE DONE YET? (PG) (10:15 @ \$5), 12:30, 2:50, 5:10, 7:30, 9:55
 BLADES OF GLORY (PG13) (10:40 @ \$5), 1:00, 3:20, 5:30, 7:50, 10:00
 SHOOTER (R) 5:10, 8:00, 10:45
 TMNT (PG) (10:30 @ \$5), 12:45, 2:45, 5:45, 7:45, 10:20
 300 (R) (11:20 @ \$5), 1:10, 4:00, 6:00, 8:00, 10:35
 AMC SELECT
 THE NAMESAKE (PG13) (11:00 @ \$5), 1:50, 4:40, 7:25, 10:10

AMC POTOMAC MILLS 18
2700 Potomac Mills Circle, Ste 886
703-998-4262

DIGITAL 3D

MEET THE ROBINSONS IN DISNEY DIGITAL 3-D (G) (11:40 @ \$7), 2:10, 4:40, 7:10, 9:40
 THE CONDEMNED (R) ✓ (11:35 @ \$5), 2:25, 5:05, 7:50, 10:25
 THE INVISIBLE (PG13) ✓ (11:00 @ \$5), 1:40, 4:15, 7:00, 9:45
 KICKIN' IT OLD SKOOL (PG13) (11:10 @ \$5), 1:45, 4:25, 7:15, 9:50
 NEXT (PG13) ✓ (10:00 @ \$5), 1:20, 2:40, 5:05, 7:30, 10:15
 FRACTURE (R) ✓ (11:25 @ \$5), 2:15, 4:50, 7:35, 10:15
 HOT FUZZ (R) ✓ (10:30 @ \$5), 1:20, 4:10, 7:20, 10:10
 IN THE LAND OF WOMEN (PG13) (10:55 @ \$5), 1:35, 4:05, 6:55, 9:30
 VACANCY (R) ✓ (10:40 @ \$5), 1:00, 3:05, 5:25, 7:55, 10:05
 VACANCY (R) (CG) ✓ (10:40 @ \$5), 1:00, 3:05, 5:25, 7:55, 10:05
 DISTURBIA (PG13) (11:15 @ \$5), 2:00, 4:45, 7:25, 10:00
 PATHFINDER (R) (10:10 @ \$6), 12:20, 3:10, 5:40, 8:00, 10:45
 PERFECT STRANGER (R) (12:00 @ \$6), 1:20, 2:35, 5:20, 8:00, 10:35
 REDLINE (PG13) 8:10, 10:40
 GRINDHOUSE (R) 12:00, 3:30
 THE REAPING (R) 12:05, 2:30, 5:00, 7:40, 10:20
 ARE WE DONE YET? (PG) (11:30 @ \$5), 1:50, 4:20, 6:50, 9:20
 BLADES OF GLORY (PG13) (11:45 @ \$5), 2:05, 4:30, 7:05, 9:25
 SHOOTER (R) 6:45, 9:35
 TMNT (PG) (10:05 @ \$5), 12:15, 2:20, 4:35
 300 (R) 7:45, 10:30

AMC COLUMBIA MALL 14
10300 Patuxent Parkway
410-423-0520

DIGITAL 3D

MEET THE ROBINSONS IN DISNEY DIGITAL 3-D (G) (11:00 @ \$7), 1:40, 4:20, 7:00, 9:40
 THE CONDEMNED (R) (11:55 @ \$5), 2:40, 5:20, 8:00, 10:40
 THE INVISIBLE (PG13) ✓ (12:00 @ \$5), 2:20, 4:50, 7:20, 9:50
 NEXT (PG13) (10:50 @ \$5), 1:15, 3:40, 6:10, 8:30, 11:00
 FRACTURE (R) (12:20, 3:00, 5:40, 8:20, 11:00)
 HOT FUZZ (R) (11:20 @ \$5), 2:10, 5:05, 7:50, 10:35
 IN THE LAND OF WOMEN (PG13) (11:35 @ \$5), 2:05, 4:45, 7:30, 10:00
 VACANCY (R) (11:25 @ \$5), 1:45, 4:05, 6:30, 8:50, 11:05
 DISTURBIA (PG13) (11:45 @ \$5), 2:30, 5:00, 7:40, 10:20
 PERFECT STRANGER (R) (11:15 @ \$5), 1:50, 4:30, 7:10, 9:45
 PERFECT STRANGER (R) (CG) (11:15 @ \$5), 1:50, 4:30, 7:10, 9:45
 ARE WE DONE YET? (PG) (10:55 @ \$5), 1:10, 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 10:30
 BLADES OF GLORY (PG13) (11:05 @ \$5), 1:30, 4:10, 6:40, 9:10
 REDLINE (PG13) (11:00 @ \$5), 2:00, 4:25, 6:50, 9:20
 WILD HOGS (PG13) (11:30 @ \$5), 2:00, 4:25, 6:50, 9:20

AMC FAIRFAX SQUARE 8
8065 Leesburg Pike
703-506-9857 802

KICKIN' IT OLD SKOOL (PG13) (12:05, 2:15, 4:30, 8:00, 10:30)
 THE HOAX (R) 7:10, 8:40
 PATHFINDER (R) (12:15, 2:30, 4:40, 7:40, 10:00)
 GRINDHOUSE (R) 1:20, 5:00, 9:00
 THE REAPING (R) (12:10, 2:25, 5:00, 7:50, 10:20)
 FIREHOUSE DOG (PG) (12:20, 4:20, 7:40, 10:10)
 THE LAST MINMIZ (PG) (12:20, 4:50, 7:20, 10:20)
 TMNT (PG) 2:30, 8:10
 BREACH (PG13) (10:00, 4:20, 7:30, 9:50)
 THANANAN THANANAM (NR-NOT RATED) (12:40, 4:00, 7:00, 10:05)

MAGIC JOHNSON CAPITAL CENTRE 12
800 Shopper's Way, Largo
301-731-4220

THE CONDEMNED (R) (12:00, 2:15, 5:10, 7:50, 10:30)
 THE INVISIBLE (PG13) (12:15, 2:40, 5:10, 7:40, 10:10)
 NEXT (PG13) (12:20, 2:50, 5:20, 7:55, 10:30)
 IN THE LAND OF WOMEN (PG13) (1:40, 4:20, 6:50, 9:30)
 VACANCY (R) (1:10, 3:20, 5:50, 8:10, 10:20)
 DISTURBIA (PG13) (12:30, 3:30, 5:50, 8:30, 10:35)
 PERFECT STRANGER (R) (1:45, 4:50, 7:30, 10:00)
 ARE WE DONE YET? (PG) (1:00, 3:15, 5:30, 7:45, 10:15)
 BLADES OF GLORY (PG13) (1:00, 3:15, 5:45, 7:45, 10:15)
 MEET THE ROBINSONS (G) (1:20, 4:30, 7:20, 9:50)
 PRIDE (PG) (1:30, 4:30, 7:00, 9:45)

LOEWS DUPONT 5
1350 19th St.
1-800-FANDANGO #711

HOT FUZZ (R) 1:45, 4:30, 7:10, 9:50
 GRINDHOUSE (R) 7:00
 300 (R) 3:15, 10:10
 AMC SELECT

LOEWS UPTOWN 1
3426 Connecticut Avenue N.W.
1-800-FANDANGO #713

GRINDHOUSE (R) 2:00, 6:00, 10:00

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ALL SHOWS BEFORE 6 PM ONLY \$5.00PERFECT STRANGER (R)
12:00, 2:40, 5:00, 7:40, 10:20
NEXT (PG-13)
12:20, 2:50, 5:20, 7:40, 10:10
CONDENMED (R)
12:00, 2:30, 5:10, 7:50, 10:30
VACANCY (R)
12:20, 2:40, 5:20, 7:30, 10:10
DISTURBIA (PG-13)
12:00, 2:35, 5:00, 7:30, 10:20
KICKIN' IT OLD SKOOL (PG-13)
12:00, 2:40, 5:00, 7:50, 10:20
ARE WE DONE YET? (PG)
12:20, 2:50, 5:10, 7:30, 10:10
MEET THE ROBINSONS (G)
12:10, 2:30, 5:10, 7:40, 10:10PERFECT STRANGER (R)
12:00, 2:40, 5:00, 7:40, 10:20
NEXT (PG-13)
12:20, 2:50, 5:20, 7:40, 10:10
THE LIVES OF OTHERS (R)
12:05, 2:30, 5:10, 7:50, 10:20
THE HOAX (R)
9:50 am, 12:10, 2:30, 4:50, 7:20
THE NAMESAKE (PG-13)
9:40 am, 12:05, 2:35, 5:05, 7:50, 10:05
THE WIND THAT SHAKES THE BARLEY (NR)
9:45 am, 12:00, 2:25, 4:45, 7:40, 10:00
THE LIVES OF OTHERS (R) 9:30 p.m.
Jewish Film Festival
THE FIRST TIME I WAS TWENTY 1:00
PAPER DOLLS 4:00

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THE ITALIAN (PG-13)
1:55, 4:40, 7:15, 9:35THE NAMESAKE (PG-13)
1:30, 4:10, 7:00, 9:40HOT FUZZ (R)
1:35, 4:15, 7:10, 9:50

BLACK BOOK (R) 2:20, 6:15, 9:25

AFTER THE WEDDING (NR)
1:20, 4:20, 7:05, 9:45THE LIVES OF OTHERS (R)
1:15, 2:15, 4:45, 7:50, 10:25THE BLACK BOOK (R)
1:25, 3:30, 6:35, 8:50THE HOAX (R)
1:20, 3:30, 6:35, 8:50THE NAMESAKE (PG-13)
1:20, 3:30, 6:35, 8:50THE WIND THAT SHAKES THE BARLEY (NR)
1:20, 3:30, 6:35, 8:50THE LIVES OF OTHERS (R)
1:20, 3:30, 6:35, 8:50THE HOAX (R)
1:20, 3:30, 6:35, 8:50THE NAMESAKE (PG-13)
1:20, 3:30, 6:35, 8:50

Television

ON TV THIS WEEKEND

THE KIDS ARE ALL RIGHT

HANNAH MONTANA (Fri., 8 p.m., Disney) returns. For the uninitiated, Miley Cyrus stars as high school freshman Miley Stewart, who also happens to be the teenage singing sensation Hannah Montana. Miley's real-life father, Billy Ray Cyrus, stars as her father, a country star looking after his daughter's career. For all of her superstardom, Miley's life is dominated by a normal post-adolescent blend of anxiety and shenanigans. In tonight's episode, the second-season opener, Hannah's taste for audience-pleasing encores puts a strain on Miley's throat. She submits to a week of silence and even faces surgery to save Hannah's voice and career. Brooke Shields guest-stars in a Cinderella-themed dream sequence.

Disney follows "Hannah" with another serving of the feature-length **HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL** (Fri., 8 p.m., Disney). For people 16 or older, it's easy to overlook both "Hannah" and "Musical" and not even notice how "Musical" became one of the runaway pop sensations of 2006, and its soundtrack was the highest-selling CD of the year.



KILLER CROC: These two dopes can't figure out why they'll be a reptile's lunch.



SINCERE: Sarah Silverman was named host of this year's MTV Movie Awards. "Ever since I was a little girl," she joked, "I said, 'Someday, I want there to be an all-music channel that gives out awards for movies. And I want to host that show.'" The program will air live June 3.

WAS A SEQUEL REALLY NEEDED?

In the 32 years since its premiere, "Jaws" has inspired dozens of cheap knockoffs, the latest being **LAKE PLACID 2** (Sat., 9 p.m., Sci Fi). You'd think these characters would have seen "Jaws" by now. Why else would the town sheriff (John Schneider) insist on keeping the lake open for tourists after several people have been mauled and eaten by a mystery critter? Why would the town fathers attack the press for trying to alert the public to the dangers in the deep (and shallow) end of the lake? If any of the frolicking dimwits had seen "Jaws," they would not tear off their clothes and jump into the water, or blaspheme nature within shouting distance of a giant crocodile and her eggs. "Lake Placid 2" sends up all of these screen clichés with a confusing and uneven combination of slapstick and horror.

REAL ESTATES, FAKE STARS

BOUGHT & SOLD (Sun., 10 p.m., HGTV) is the latest basic-cable program to make "stars" out of real estate agents. Anybody who has ever bought or sold a home knows the inherent tension and drama in the situation. And "Bought" puts the emphasis on the agents, who have reinvented themselves after leaving other careers. The debut episode features a former model/actress who likes to marry the right family to the right dwelling. There's also a high-powered former department store executive who turns every open house into a big production. One of the houses featured is a real palace, a mansion with its own backyard castle just for the kids. Viewers worried about the declining value of their own domiciles can at least enjoy the vicarious pleasures of "Bought & Sold." Who says television isn't escapist?



HANNAH WHO? You might not know Hannah Montana, but your rugrats do.

GRAB A COOKIE & WATCH THIS

LET'S JUST PLAY GO HEALTHY CHALLENGE (Sun., 8:30 p.m., Nickelodeon) enters its second six-month season. It follows a number of kids as they try to eat better, lose weight and become more active. KEVIN MCDONOUGH (UNITED FEATURE SYNDICATE)

4.27.07		6:00 PM	6:30	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30
LOCAL CHANNELS	WRC (4)	News (cc)		NBC Nightly News	Access Hollywood	Identity (N) (cc)		Raines "Closure" (Season Finale) (N)		Law & Order "Fallout" (N) (cc)		News (cc)	Tonight Show
	WTTG (5)	Seinfeld (cc)	The Simpsons (cc)	The Simpsons (cc)	Seinfeld (cc)	House "Honeymoon" (cc) (PA) (cc)		Bones "The Man in the SUV" (cc)		News		News	Every-Raymond
	WJLA (7)	News (cc)	ABC Wld News	Wheel of Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	Grey's Anatomy "Desire" (cc)	(:01) Wife Swap "Browne/Robinson"	20/20 (N) (cc)		News (cc)	(:35) Nightline (N)		
	WUSA (9)	News (cc)	Evening News	News	Entertainment	Ghost Whisperer "The Collector" (N)	Close to Home "Drink the Cup" (N)	NUMB3RS "The Art of Reckoning" (N)		News (cc)	Late Show		
	WDCA (20)	Scrubs (cc)	Scrubs (cc)	Judge Joe Brown	Judge Judy (N) (cc)	** "101 Dalmatians" (1996, Adventure) Glenn Close, Jeff Daniels. (cc)		The Tyra Banks Show (cc)		Still Standing (cc)	Still Standing (cc)		
	WMPT (22)	The NewsHour With Jim Lehrer (N)	Business Rpt.	State Circle	Washington Week	NOW (N) (cc)	Bill Moyers' Journal (N) (cc)		Save Our Land, Save Our Towns		Roadshow FYI	Smart Travels	
	WETA (26)	BBC World News	Business Rpt.	The NewsHour With Jim Lehrer (N)	Washington Week	Inside Wash.	Bill Moyers' Journal (N) (cc)	NOW (N) (cc)	★★★ "That's Entertainment, Part 2" (1976) Gene Kelly				
	WHUT (32)	White House	Tavis Smiley (cc)	BBC World News	Moneywise	Evening Exch	To the Contrary	History Detectives (cc)	BBC World News	Tavis Smiley (cc)	Charlie Rose (N) (cc)		
	WDCW (50)	My Wife and Kids	My Wife and Kids	Friends (cc)	Friends (cc)	WWE Friday Night SmackDown! (N) (cc)		Will & Grace (cc)	Will & Grace	Sex and the City	Sex and the City		
	A&E	Cold Case Files (cc)		Cold Case Files (cc)		CSI: Miami "Grand Prix" (cc)	CSI: Miami "Big Brother" (cc)		Intervention Heroin; addiction. (N)		Intervention "Kim" Makeup artist.		
BASIC CABLE	Animal	The Crocodile Hunter (cc)		The Planet's Funniest Animals (N)		Divine Canine	It's Me or the Dog	Growing Up... Grizzly bear cubs.	RSPCA-Takes	RSPCA-Takes	The Planet's Funniest Animals (cc)		
	BET	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live Top 10	Top 10 countdown. (N)	College Hill (cc)		★ "Soul Plane" (2004, Comedy) Kevin Hart, Tom Arnold. (cc)			Ballers (N) (cc)		Jamie Foxx	Jamie Foxx	
	Bravo	Inside the Actors Studio "Chris Rock" Chris Rock. (cc)				Work Out (cc)	★★★ "Out of Sight" (1998, Crime Drama) George Clooney, Jennifer Lopez, Ving Rhames. (cc)				Out of Sight (cc)		
	Comedy	(5:00) ★ "Ringmaster" (1998) (cc)	Scrubs (cc)	Scrubs (cc)	Daily Show	Colbert Report	Chappelle's Show	Mind of Mencia	Jim Gaffigan: Beyond the Pale (cc)	Com.-Presents	Com.-Presents		
	Court	Hollywood Heat	Masterminds	Cops (cc)	Cops (cc)	Video Justice	Video Justice	Forensic Files	Forensic Files	The Wrong Man? (N)	Dunne: Power, Privilege & Justice		
	Discovery	How It's Made	How It's Made	I Shouldn't Be Alive (cc)		Rogue Nature "Hippo; Croc" (N)	Man vs. Wild Pacific Ocean. (cc)		Deadliest Catch "Cheating Death"		Stunt Junkies	Stunt Junkies	
	DISCH	Code Blue "Someone to Lean On"		Impact: Stories of Survival (cc)		Critical Hour "9 Miles of Chaos"	Dr. G: Medical Examiner Chest pains.		Diagnosis: Unknown "Silent Death"		Critical Hour "9 Miles of Chaos"		
	Disney	Life With Derek	That's So Raven	Hannah Montana	Zack & Cody	★ "High School Musical" (2006, Musical Comedy) Zac Efron. (cc)		Hannah Montana	Hannah Montana	Zack & Cody	That's So Raven		
	E!	Summer 16	Katie & Peter	E! News (N)	The Daily 10 (N)	Halle Berry: E! True Hollywood Story	Saturday Night Live (cc)	The Soup (N)	Dating Show	E! News	The Daily 10		
	FX	King of the Hill (cc)	King of the Hill (cc)	That '70s Show	★★★ "Ray" (2004, Biography) Jamie Foxx, Kerry Washington, Regina King. Ray Charles overcomes hardships to become a legend.					The Shield "The New Guy" (cc)			
SPAN.	HGTV	Look What I Did!	Extreme Homes	If Walls Could	House Hunters	Designed to Sell	Buy Me (cc)	24 Hour Design	Curb Appeal (N)	House Hunters	House Hunters	Parents House	FreeStyle (N)
	Family	7th Heaven (cc)		Smallville "Exile" (cc)		★★★ "Under the Tuscan Sun" (2003) Diane Lane, Sandra Oh. (cc)			Whose Line?	Whose Line?	The 700 Club (cc)		
	History	Modern Marvels: Horsepower (cc)		Modern Marvels: Renewable Energy		Stealth and Beyond Invisible warriors.	Dogfights Six-Day War. (cc)		Man, Moment, Machine (cc)		Mail Call (cc)		
	Lifetime	Reba (cc)	Reba (cc)	Still Standing (cc)	Still Standing (cc)	Reba (cc)	Reba (cc)	"When Innocence Is Lost" (1997, Drama) Jill Clayburgh, Keri Russell. (cc)			Desperate Housewives (cc)		
	MTV	Run's House (cc)	Punk'd (cc)	Punk'd (cc)	Punk'd (cc)	Real World-Rd	Real World-Rd	Pimp My Ride (cc)	Pimp My Ride (cc)	Nick Cannon	Nick Cannon	★★ "Next Friday" (2000) Ice Cube.	
	NICK	Ned's School	Fairly OddParents	Fairly OddParents	Jimmy Neutron	Nicktoons TV (cc)	Nicktoons TV (cc)	Nicktoons TV (cc)	Nicktoons TV (cc)	The Cosby Show	The Cosby Show	The Cosby Show	The Cosby Show
	SCIIFI	Stargate SG-1	Earth under invasion.	Heroes "0.7 Percent" (cc)		Stargate SG-1 "The Road Not Taken"	Stargate Atlantis "Irresponsible" (N)		Painkiller Jane Selective amnesia. (N)		Stargate SG-1 "The Road Not Taken"		
	SPIKE	CSI: Crime Scene Investigation (cc)	CSI: Crime Scene Investigation (cc)	CSI: Crime Scene Investigation (cc)	CSI: Crime Scene Investigation (cc)	CSI: Crime Scene Investigation (cc)	CSI: Crime Scene Investigation (cc)	UFC's Ultimate Fight Night (cc)					
	TBS	Seinfeld (cc)	Seinfeld (cc)	Every-Raymond	Every-Raymond	Every-Raymond	Every-Raymond	MLB Baseball Atlanta Braves at Colorado Rockies. From Coors Field in Denver. (Subject to Blackout) (Live) (cc)					
	TLC	Flip That House First flip. (cc)		Take Home Chef	Take Home Chef	Little People, Big World (cc)	What Not to Wear "Bonnie C." (N)	What Not to Wear "Diane S." (cc)	What Not to Wear "Bonnie C." (cc)				
SPORTS	TNT	Law & Order "Mother's Day" (cc)		Law & Order "True Crime" (cc)		★★ "Cheaper by the Dozen" (2003) Steve Martin, Bonnie Hunt. (cc)		★★ "Cheaper by the Dozen" (2003) Steve Martin, Bonnie Hunt. (cc)					
	USA	Law & Order: Criminal Intent (cc)		Law & Order: Criminal Intent (cc)		Law & Order: Special Victims Unit (cc)	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit (cc)	Monk (cc)		House "Act Your Age" (cc)			
	VHI	100 Most Metal Moments 80-61. (cc)		100 Most Metal Moments 60-41. (cc)		100 Most Metal Moments 40-21. (cc)	100 Most Metal Moments 20-1. (cc)	Acceptable TV (N)	Springer Hust.	Best Week Ever	Acceptable TV (cc)		
	TELEM	Daniela	Noti-Telemundo	Dame Chocolate		Marina	Zorro - La Espada y la Rosa		Sin Verganza		Noti-Telemundo	Titulares y Mas	
	UNIV	Que Locura	Noticiero Univ	Duelo de Pasiones		La Fea Más Bella (N)	Destilando Amor		Casos de la Vida Real		Primer Impacto	Noticiero Univ.	
	CNN	Lou Dobbs Tonight (cc)		The Situation Room		Paula Zahn Now (cc)	Larry King Live "Heroes" cast. (N)	Anderson Cooper 360 (cc)					
	FNC	Special Report (Live) (cc)		The Fox Report With Shepard Smith		The O'Reilly Factor (Live) (cc)	Hannity & Colmes (Live) (cc)	On the Record-Van Susteren				The O'Reilly Factor	
	MSNBC	Tucker		Hardball (cc)		Countdown With Keith Olbermann	MSNBC Investigates	Why They Run				Predator Raw: The Unseen Tapes	
	AMC	(5:45) ★★ "Volcano" (1997, Action) Tommy Lee Jones. 'PG-13' (cc)				★★★ "Saturday Night Fever" (1977) John Travolta. A Brooklyn nobody becomes a disco king.			★★★ "Carrie" (1976, Horror) Sissy Spacek. 'R'				
	TCM	Five Hours		★★★ "My Favorite Brunette" (1947) Bob Hope. 'NR'		★★★ "All the King's Men" (1949) Broderick Crawford. Premiere. 'NR'			★★★ "The Hustler" (1961, Drama) Paul Newman, Jackie Gleason. 'NR'				
MOVIES	HBO	★★ "The Lake House" (2006) Keanu Reeves. 'PG' (cc)		Fast & Furious		Jerry Seinfeld: The Comedian Award	De La Hoya	De La Hoya	Entourage (cc)	Entourage (cc)	Real Time With Bill Maher (cc)		
	MAX	(1:15) ★★ "Sudden Impact" (1983, Action) Clint Eastwood. (cc)				(1:15) ★★ "Slither" (2006, Horror) Nathan Fillion. (cc)			★★ "Fantastic Four" (2005, Action) Ioan Gruffudd. (cc)				
	SHOW	(:05) ★★ "The Pink Panther" (2006) Steve Martin. 'PG'		Tudors: Style		This Am. Life	This Am. Life	The Tudors "Episode 4" (iTV) (cc)	Penn & Teller	Penn & Teller	★★ "Awesome; I F...in' Shot That!"		
	TMC	(5:25) ★★ "Chances Are" (1989) (cc)		(:15) ★★★ "Dirty Dancing" (1987, Romance) Jennifer Grey. (cc)		★★★ "Coach Carter" (2005, Drama) Samuel L. Jackson, Robert Ri'chard. (cc)			Penn & Teller	Penn & Teller	★ 200 Cigarettes		
	STARZ!	(5:35) ★★★ "Dawn of the Dead" (2004) Sarah Polley.		(:20) ★★★ "Keeping Up With the Steins" (2005) 'PG-13'		★★ "Man of the House" (2005) Tommy Lee Jones. (cc)			(:45) ★★★ "Dawn of the Dead" (2004) Sarah Polley. (cc)				
	ENCORE	(:05) ★★★ "Sleepless in Seattle" (1993) Tom Hanks. (cc)				★★ "Blade" (1998, Horror) Wesley Snipes, Stephen Dorff. (cc)			(:05) ★★ "Halloween H2O: 20 Years Later" (1998) (cc)				
												(:35) Casual Sex?	

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Our school is directly opposite the Stadium/Armory METRO exit on the corner of 19th St. and Independence Avenue, SE, Washington, DC. We offer top competitive salaries and excellent benefits. To pre-set an interview time send your resume and cover letter to jobs@stcoletta.org. Put April Job Fair in the "subject" line

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Hotel

JOB FAIR Saturday April 28th 10AM- 2PM

at Hyatt Regency Reston

Recruiters onsite from:
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Hyatt Regency Reston
www.explorehyatt.jobs



AA/EOE M/F/D/V
1800 Presidents St.,
Reston, VA 20190

Hotel

Front Desk/Driver

Hotel in Crystal City is currently seeking energetic, responsible, service oriented team member. Must have valid driver's license. Computer experience a plus, and able to work a flexible schedule. Salary commensurate with experience. Apply in person or call Americana Hotel, 1400 Jefferson Davis Hwy, Arlington, VA. 703-979-3772.

HOTEL



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- Guest Service Representatives
- Night Auditors
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- Shift Supervisors

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Attn: Valerie E. Richardson
OR apply in person at
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EOE

HVAC

Steam Fitter \$29,594 - \$40,192 Closing Date: 5/1/07

The Department of Juvenile Services currently has a vacancy for a Steam Fitter position located at the Cheltenham Youth Facility in Prince George's County. This is a full time with benefits position. Must have completed the 4th grade & must have four years of paid employment as a steam fitter. Submit a MS100 application to Dept of Juvenile Services - OHR, One Center Plaza, 120 W. Fayette St., Balt., MD 21201.

For detailed info & to download the MS100, go to www.djs.state.md.us or www.dbm.maryland.gov. EOE

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To work w/experienced contractor, helping w/renovations, tenant prep, landscaping & clean-up projects in Kensington/Wheaton/Rockville area. Great opportunity to learn & grow. \$8-\$12/hr depending on exper. **Pride, Responsibility & Honesty a Must!** Summer Job okay.

REALTY PRESERVATION INC.
Call for details: 301-933-1838

LEASING CONSULTANT

Well-established Property Management Company is currently seeking a high energy, outgoing individual with leasing experience for the community in Bladensburg, Maryland. Must have prior leasing. Experience with Onsites and tax credits is a plus. Excellent benefits! Please email resume:

aw1manager@verizon.net
EOE

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You are an online savvy, highly analytical marketing specialist. You have tactical database direct marketing experience, pulling data from various resources, market segmentation, devising best methods for targeting clients, communicating message through multiple channels, and tracking and reporting ROI. You are a sole owner and driver in this newly-created position. You work with purpose and efficiency in a fast-paced web environment, managing multiple marketing efforts across multiple product lines and properties. Requires undergraduate degree and 2-4 yrs. experience in direct marketing. More info: www.washpostco.com

Send resume to:
talentsearch@washpost.com
Attn: DMEXP/XT

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MAINTENANCE SUPERINTENDENT:

Well-established Property Management Company is currently seeking a maintenance superintendent for a community in Bladensburg, Maryland. Individual must have experience in electrical, heating, plumbing, carpentry and certification with HVAC systems. A minimum of three years experience as a maintenance supervisor is a must. Qualified applicants may fax their resume to 301-209-0008 or email aw1manager@verizon.net

EOO

Marketing

See our ad under Property Management
LEASING MANAGER or visit
www.scottmanagementinc.com
(Join Our Team) EEO

Mechanic/Truck — Leasing company needs class B Mechanic to perform PM's & light repairs. Benefits with 401K. 1st shift available. Call Robert at: 703-354-5300.

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Reliable medical secretary needed in College Park area. Good benefits. Fax resume to: 301-864-8565 or call 301-699-9513.

Mental Health Counselors/Direct Support Staff

Counselors and companions are needed for P/T and weekend positions for MR DC citizens. Will provide supervision in the community for outings and recreational fun. Salary \$9/hr, apply in person Mon-Fri, 9am-4:30pm. Total Care Services, 5780 Second St. NE, Washington, DC, or fax resume 202-526-7631.

MENTAL RETARDATION COUNSELORS

Exper pref'd. Work in group homes in the District. Entry-level, \$8.50/ hr. Call Ms. Grace, 9a-5p, 202-575-3840; 301-203-1942; 202-581-2314

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Painter

Paint Shop Supervisor

The National Gallery of Art is seeking experienced supervisor w/ exemplary people skills to oversee 5 painters in the Facilities Paint Shop. Responsible for many public areas, and all staff areas. Needs experience with color matching, spray painting, plaster, furniture finishing. Secure government job, great benefits. Starting wages \$58,800. Call Mr. MacFarlane (202) 842-6816 for more info. U.S. citizenship is required. For specific application information and instructions go to <http://jobsearch.usajobs.opm.gov/a9ngqa.asp>. The vacancy announcement number is #07-30.

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Property Management

LEASING CONSULTANT, ROCKVILLE MD

Congressional Towers is looking for a FT Leasing Consult. for our apt community in Rockville, Md. The right candid. must possess a min. of three (3) years of prop. mgmt. exper. together with excellent communication, interpersonal, and organiz., admin skills and also be computer literate & flexible.

We are looking for a creative team player who has strong networking experience and someone willing to think out of the box. Weekends are a must. Come join a winning team. Excellent salary and benefits! Thorough background investigation will be conducted prior to hire. Please fax resume to S. Elam at 301-881-7450 or email: selam@congressionaltowers.net. EOE M/F/H/V

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JOBS

Property Management

William C. Smith & Co.

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What: Spring Job Fair

When: Tuesday, May 1

Where: THE ARC
1901 Mississippi Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20020

Time: 9:00 A.M. - 12:30 P.M.

We are recruiting for the following positions:

- Custodians
- Maintenance Technicians
- Leasing Consultants with Tax Credit Experience/Certification
- Administrative/Office Assistants (Part-Time)
- Accountants with non-profit experience
- Painters
- Laborers
- Drywall Preps
- Assistant Community Managers
- Leasing Consultants

Interviews will take place on site. Please bring a current copy of your resume and copies of any certifications. EOE.

Property Management

DC Condominium seeks:

- Front door person. FT with benefits. Mon-Fri, 11am-7pm.
- Front door person. PT Sat & Sun, 11am-7pm.
- PT On Call Desk Person.

Requirements: Background check and excellent customer service skills. Call Karen 202-362-8833 or Fax resume 202-362-9137.

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Property Management

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Receptionist/Driver (SOME): Front desk, admin asst + some driving w/med clinic for homeless. HS grad + computer exp. Resume to: brogers@some.org

Restaurant



CHEF/MANAGER

A high volume landmark waterfront seafood restaurant looking to hire an experienced Chef/Manager. Individual must be self-motivated, hardworking and team player. Competitive salary, benefits and bonus. Mail resume to: 428 Forest Beach Rd, Annapolis, MD 21401 or fax to: 410-757-6784

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Restaurant



Hiring SERVERS & COOKS

First Watch is Opening in ROCKVILLE!
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Interviewing Mon-Sat 11a-4p
Hrs of operation 7am-2:30pm
That's right - NO NIGHT SHIFTS - Benefits Available!
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Restaurant



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Hrs of operation 7am-2:30pm
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Make night time money during the daytime hours
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Restaurant

WAITRESS

Must be over 21, neat & dependable person to work in establish family owned & operated restaurant/bar. Good pay & tips. FT/PT. Call for appt. at: 202-726-1511.

Restaurant



Looking for **Restaurant Manager, Servers, Bartenders and Cooks**. Benefits include vacation, insurance, paid holidays, hotel discounts, employee meals and in-house bonuses.

Fax your resume to:
Lydia Allison
703-924-1225
or apply in person at
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Springfield, VA
EOE

Restaurant

LA TASCA - Rockville

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***No phone calls, please.**

El Tiempo Latino

Classifieds

JOBS

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SUBS/PIZZA: New Jerry's Subs & Pizza to open in **Columbia Heights** across from DC USA development. Join Target, Best Buy, Staples and a new Giant in this hot DC neighborhood. Right near Metro station. Financing available for this site. Call 800-990-9176 x 155 for details.



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VENDING RTE: Must sell. Hi-volume sales VA, MD, and DC 202-439-6100

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Ribs! Ribs! Ribs!
Featuring La Fiesta Ribs

Rib Sandwich Include: S. Western Fries \$7.99

Rib Dinner Include: Choice of S. Western Fries or Mexican Rice \$9.99

Ribs & Wing Combo Includes: S. Western Fries or Mexican Rice \$13.29

Whole Slab of Ribs - \$17.99

Have them your way with one of our special sauces:
BBQ, Honey BBQ, Dry Rubbed, Honey Chipotle

Need a caterer for your special events such as weddings, church events, family reunions, cookouts, business and corporate events?

**Ribs only sold Friday & Saturday

STUFF

8 piece Cherry (new in box) sleighbed set worth \$1100 ask \$575 301-343-8630

920 FAIRWAY DR, Vienna—Nr Town 123 & Old Ct Hse Rd. Furn, Fine Jewelry, Hhld Items, & Collectibles. Thurs/Fri 12-6, Sat 8-4

ALEX/SPRINGFIELD—Sat. 4/28, 26th Annual Boys Scouts, Springfield Plaza, 50+ sellers, space avail, 703-451-8027 or 703-256-2883.

Alexandria—Multi-Family Yard Sale Saturday 4/28/07. Buy furniture, clothes, and other treasures from 9 to noon at 2 W. Myrtle St.

ANNANDALE/7111 Wilburdale Dr. 22003—Sat/Sun 4/28-29, 8a-4p. Furn, beanies babies, dishes, craft items & more. 703-256-0591

BED \$135 Queen Double pillowtop mattress set in plastic Can del. 301-399-7870

BED \$235 Double pillowtop king mattress set in plastic Can del. 301-343-8630

Bethesda—ALL MUST GO!! Furn, Hswares,toys, Great finds! SAT(4/28) and SUN(4/29) from 9-3PM at 9112 Charred Oak/7 Locks.

CARPET SALE
Starting at \$1.59/s.f. Hardwood floors, \$6.99/s.f. Price includes installation. 301-341-2499

Cherry Dining Room—Beautiful, all wood, Queen Anne Dining Room. Includes table with 2 leaves and pads, 2 arm chairs, 4 side chairs, buffet, server, corner cupboard, rug. \$5000, Clifton, VA, 703-266-2856

Clifton—HISTORIC DISTRICT w/35+ families: Antiques, collectibles, furn., hshld items, baby/kid clothes/equip, toys, books, electronics, bldg. supp & MORE! All in one place: 7144 Main St. - Sat 4/28 8am-2pm. (Rain=?=Sun!)

COUCH/LOVESEAT stain resistant microfiber New in boxes \$450 301-343-8630

WeekendPass pulses. Thursday.

Dining Set—Round maple table with two leaves, four chairs, lighted china cabinet. New in 2004. \$800/obo, Fairfax Station, VA, 7036906564

Ethan Allen Living Room—Like new. Includes sofa, pillows, chair, chair + ottoman, curio, rug, coffee and 2 end tables. \$3500 obo, Clifton, VA, 703-266-2856

ETHAN ALLEN SOFA—“South Beach” sofa, Mint Cond. Black. Leath. \$1400. Sells for \$1999. 703-864-4017

FURNITURE—On-site office furniture liquidation sale, 100's of desks, chairs, files, cubicles, in exc. cond. avail. for sale. Inspection avail. in McLean Apr. 30th and May 7th. Contact us at 866-477-1050

Girl 8 pc bedroom set—by Stanley Young America, full canopy, beige, \$900 OBO (new \$2500) ashburn, VA, 571 641-9167.

GRANITE SALE—\$28 per sq ft. Saturday, April 28. Beautiful color selection. 301-627-7630

Laurel—4/28/2007, 8:00 am- 12:00 pm, 14301 Laurel Bowie Road (197), 410-370-9663 Huge many items

LORTON-Sat & Sun 10-5 9903 East Hill Dr. (20079)

MOVING Everything Must Go!—Picasso litho, leather furn, office furn, sterling, crystal, rugs, lamps, tiffany lamps, wicker, etc, Cash Only

MATTRESS SALE—Ige selec-tion, all szs in plastic, \$80-\$280/Basic. Serta & Simmons. Make of Credit cards accepted. Warr. DC/MD/VA Same Day Delivery avl. A.J. 301-674-2843 www.mattress4less.biz

Mt. Pleasant—Moving Sale. 1907 Park Road, NW, DC. BEAUTIFUL FURNITURE!! and other items. Saturday April 28th, 10am to 2pm.

MULTI FAM—7303 Gary St, Springfield 4/28 9-5pm, Rain Dte 4/29 12-5

NW—**HUGE RUMMAGE SALE**

SAT. 8-2: Indoors: Hswares, toys, games, child/adult clothes, baby items, books, tapes, videos, sm. furn., Kitchenware, electr., sports equip., linens, upscale items. Coffee & snacks. 4700 Whitehaven Pkwy-Foxhall Rd. & MacArthur Blvd. Bus D5 D6.

OAK HILL—Sat. 4/28 8am-11am. Myterra neighbor-hood: Intersection Lawyers Rd. & Myterra Way

PIANO/BABY GRAND—Vintage Baldwin model M, 5'4" fully restored, \$8000. 540-368-1264

Reston—Sunday 4/29 8:30 am, 11670 Mediterranean Ct. Upscale Clothes JR Tops & Faux Purses/Bedding /Fireplace Mantel

ROCKVILLE MOVING SALE—Sat/Sun. 10-4. 4 pc queen BR set, exc cond.; IBM Synergistic PC work station (furn.) 4 drawer wood chest; dinette round glasstbl; 4 antique chrs., needing restoring. 5105 Crossfield Ct. #5. 240-994-6360

Silver Spring—04/28/07, 10-2, 8920 Walden Rd, 240-643-5563. Antique punch bowl/camping equip/ briefcases/ foot lockers/ottoman sleeper/lawn chairs.

SOFA/LOVESEAT—Reddish color, like new. Bought Macys \$1800; ask \$500 nego. Also have end tables/lamps. 703-689-0761, Reston

SPRINGFIELD—Moving. All must go! Fri-Sun 703-992-9459

VIENNA, VA - HUGE VARIETY SALE! Sat, May 12, 10A-5P, Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry St. Antiques, jewelry, china, fine apparel, art, books, toys, small furniture! DONATIONS: Fri, May 11, 1P-9P. BENEFIT: FRIENDS OF HOMELESS ANIMALS. www.foha.org

Washer / Dryer / Chairs—Washing machine \$175, Dryer \$25, Metal frame gliding/rocking chairs \$25 each. Located in Columbia, MD. Cell# 940-782-3040

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REDSKIN SEASON TICKETS—Loge seats, covered, leather, heat & a/c. Sec. L, 419, 2 end seats w/Purple Parking. 561-632-4568

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Beagle—\$250-300, M/F, 9 weeks, S&W updated, cute & friendly, playful, 301-854-3540

Bichon Frise—\$800, 9 wks, 540-972-6469

Boxer—pups \$800 2m's, 2fm's brindle, \$1k reverse brindle fm pup - 1st shots, dc, td, CKC, microchipped, ready 5/15 240 264 6864

BOXER PUPS—AKC brindle, dark brindle, fancy brindle, vet checked, shots UTD, dew claws removed, tails docked, ready for good home \$650-\$700 703-304-4618

BOXER PUPS—M/Fs, fawns & whites, Shots & Wormed, \$450+. Call 240-925-1545

CAIRN TERRIER—Pups, 11 wks, black, brindle, ACA reg, S & W, \$395 - \$495. 240-409-6455 or 240-409-6455

CAIRN TERRIER—Absolutely adorable pups, ACA, shots & wormed, health guar. 3 M, \$400 703-402-3402

Chow-Retriever—\$150 (negotiable), spayed female, 10yrs, Gentle family pet & friend for kids & adults, must sell, will deliver-703-740-7565

COCKER SPANIEL ADOPTION SHOWS Springfield Va PetSmart Sat 11-2 Rockville MD PetSmart Sat. 11-2 Fosters needed! 703-533-2373 www.cockerspanielrescue.com

COCKER SPANIEL PUPS—APR. 1st shots, parents on premises. Ready for Mother's day. Family raised. 345. 301-352-7666

CORAL - Live Rock, Inverts. One of the largest selections of marine fish in the metro area. 703-242-0553

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English Springer Spaniel—\$450, AKC, family raised, parents on site, only two left, born 2-27-07, 540-338-7868

French Bulldog Pups—AKC, \$1,500, Brindle w/white, S&W, Vet Ckcd, Microchipped, USA Bred, Guar., Ready Now! 540-465-3201

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Golden Retriever and Golden x Lab pups—\$600-\$1200 www.remingtongoldlabel.com 540-984-4027 540-624-2972

RENTALS

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Hand-fed Parrots—Green cheeks \$250. Also Suns, Parrotlets, Cockatiels, Amazons, Lovebirds, etc. Located at AviaryAriavary.com 703-606-1884

Jack Russell—\$300.00, M's & F's, will have 1st shots, ready to go May 2 and 16, 410-874-7741 ftcordial@hotmail.com Reserve now

JACK RUSSELL PUPPIES—NKC Reg. Males & Females. 1st shots & dewormed, top quality. Available May 15. Reserve now. Also available, 1 Female, all White, Very Rare. Culpeper, VA. 540-905-0405

LAB/BORDER COLLIE—8 wks, M, F, 1st shots, wormed, \$250. 301-469-9440 or 240-506-9468

LAB PUPS—AKC & CKC, yellow and black, S&W, vet checked and guaranteed. \$375 M, \$425 F. 804-779-7841 or 804-543-4821

PEMBROKE WELSH CORGI PUPS—8 weeks, M, tri-color, 3 Fs, red & white, ACA. We deliver. \$500 each. 301-919-7664

POMERANIAN PUPS—2 M, 4 & 5 mo old, S&W, asking \$325 301-371-9682 or 240-674-4415

Pomeranians—\$800 & up, AKC, s/w, m/f, 7 wk will be ready 5/3/07. Parents on Premises, taking deposits, small, 301-675-4695

POMERANIAN PUPS—AKC, Cute, s/w, vet check, ready. LG & Sm. Socialized. \$675+ for info. 717-597-1533 apcs@internet.net

OH—2 yr old sable stallion, from Nu Chek to Cash, \$3000/OBO. **PALOMINO MARE**—3 yr old, from Genuine Doc, Great conformation. Willing learner. \$2500. 301-888-1429

REWARD!—Lost 4/20/07 on Addison Rd in Prince Georges CO. Rottweiler, M, Family Grieving, 804-448-9424 or 202-388-2314

ROTTWEILER RESCUE—4/28. Barkley Sq. Bakery. 1 Wales Alley, Alexandria. 2-5pm. 301-916-2029

YORKIE—Tiny, Beautiful, TopQuality AKC females. No homes with lrg dogs 1500-up 703-987-3811

Yorkshire Terrier—ACA Yorkies 8wks M/F vet checked home raised shots tiny teacup size \$750+ 717-485-4307

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ALEX/HUNTINGTON CLUB—1 blk Metro. Near Old Town. Sunny 2BR, 1BA, \$1395. 703-765-1248.

ANACOSTIA—1428 S ST, SE. 3BR 1BA + garage, 10 blks to Metro, 2 blks to bus. \$1800/mo. 202-701-5235 lv msg

Anacostia—426 Mellon St SE, 2 lvs Twnhse, 3 br, 1 1/2ba, water incl, nr metro, \$1350, 204-286-4292

ANACOSTIA—Newly renov 1BR apt, access to Green line metro. \$800/mo Call 202-610-2123

ANNAPOLIS AREA-WATERFRONT—furnished, 3-4BR, 2 BA, 2 deep water slips, Nonsmkg. \$4500/mo. Call Peg 410 544-2675.

ARL S.—Charming 2BR SFH, 2BA, bsmnt, \$2000 703-517-4765

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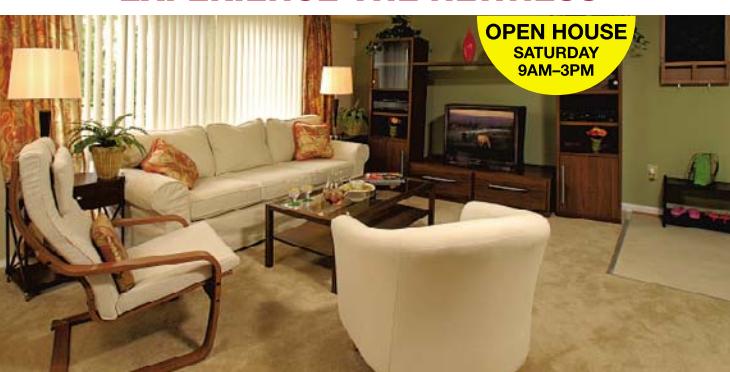
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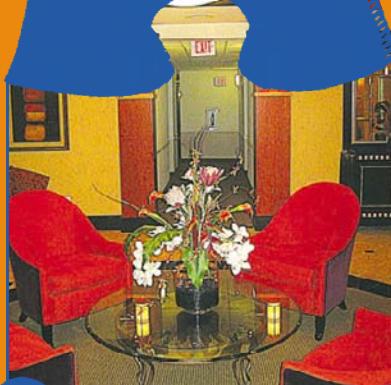
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LOOK out

* TRENDS, CULTURE, DISCOVERIES, IDEAS, PEOPLE

Food

Vegetarian eateries are transforming into fine-dining hot spots

The fake meat at this upscale vegan eatery doesn't taste like mystery meat. Depending on the night, it's more like hearty meat loaf with a mushroom sauce, pork tenderloin or Mediterranean grilled chicken skewers.

At Sublime in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., cascading waterfalls trickle from 10-foot windows in a low-lit dining room filled with live palm trees and customers sampling \$19 caviar — made of seaweed, not fish eggs.

Once a network of grungy, obscure cafes, the vegetarian and vegan experience in some cities has blossomed on par with its carnivorous counterparts, complete with Zagat ratings and celebrity clientele.

There are between 1,000 and 1,200 vegetarian restaurants in the U.S., almost double the number seven years ago, according to Dennis Bayomi, president of VegDining.com, an online guide to vegetarian restaurants. Besides Sublime, he estimates there are more

than a dozen fine-dining vegan eateries nationwide, though that number is harder to track.

Part of the transformation owes to advances in cooking that allow chefs to prepare proteins like tofu with a taste and texture similar to

“The door is wide open. It's been going on for years, but it's much more of a trend across restaurants now.”

EVE FELDER, CULINARY INSTITUTE

meat. They can do the same thing with tempeh, which consists of fermented soybeans with a more grainy texture, and seitan, a concentrated wheat gluten.

Experts also credit the rise to an expanding global pantry, where vegetarian dishes are no longer relegated to the back of a menu, but have become main-plate specials.

“The door is wide open,” said Eve Felder, associate dean for culinary arts at the Culinary Institute of America in Hyde Park, N.Y. “It's been going on in pockets for years, but it's much more of a trend across restaurants now.”

INSIDE

Grant arrested after bean attack | 46



Live Online: How to redo living rooms | 44

Blog Log: AU cashes in on graduation | 44



MEAT ITS MATCH: The flavorful fake meat at Sublime, the upscale vegan eatery in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., is winning converts.

Killer Tofu

New York-based Candle 79 has carved a profitable niche among vegetable-loving foodies with New York Times reviews, a popular cookbook and takeout items sold at Whole Foods Market. Paul McCartney, Alicia Silverstone and Woody Harrelson are all regulars, said owner Bart Potenza. One zealot flew two Candle chefs to Arizona recently just to cater his birthday bash.

“We've taken it to a whole other level. It couldn't have happened five

or 10 years ago,” Potenza said.

Candle 79 has sold 3 million vegan meals in the last 20 years, and does about \$3 million in annual business.

No matter how sumptuous the stir fry, Potenza admits vegan restaurants can have more trouble becoming cash cows.

“They say it's harder to change people's food habits than their religion or politics,” he said.

Chef Rich Landau and his wife, Kate Jacoby, opened Horizons in the

Philadelphia suburbs 11 years ago with low-key plans. He expected to be serving coffee and hummus to college kids, and was surprised when his restaurant filled with suits and ties.

Now they've moved downtown, where some weekend diners are willing to wait an hour for a table to sample the restaurant's pan-seared tofu with hearts of palm, poblano cream and agave baked beans; wasabi-glazed tempeh; or a maitake and smoked eggplant empanada.

“I wanted to open up the doors to the mainstream public and give them foods they could relate to,” Landau said. KELLI KENNEDY (AP)



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY, FORT BELVOIR

HISTORIC RESOURCES MEETING POTENTIAL HISTORIC RESOURCE IMPACTS TO BE DISCUSSED

May 2, 2007
Fairfax County's South County Center
Room 221C
8350 Richmond Highway, Alexandria, VA
7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

FORT BELVOIR, Va. - The Army will hold a public meeting May 2 to discuss the potential impacts on historic resources by Fort Belvoir's Base Realignment and Closure Action.

The meeting is held in compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.

The meeting is scheduled from 7 to 9 p.m. in Room 221C at Fairfax County's South County Center, 8350 Richmond Highway, Alexandria, Va.

For more information regarding the public meeting, please contact Derek Manning at (703) 806-3759.

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IDOL CHATTER

'American Idol' to Africa

"AI's" judges "gave back" this week, but Express' Arion Berger is still undecided. "It's both heartbreaking and heartwarming to see these kids, but it is unfortunate that Simon gasps at the horrible conditions in the same tone he uses to dismiss a particularly nasally Chris R. performance." | [ONLINE NOW](#)



FREE RIDE

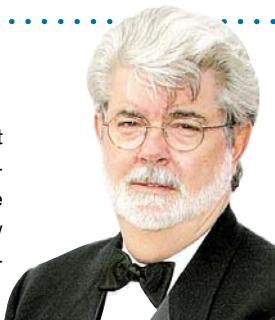
Commuter Confusion

Although Metro has installed brand-new technology to help inform commuters of the latest transit information, there are still bugs in the system. Express' Michael Glass chronicles a recent trip through Farragut North that was particularly confounding. | [ONLINE NOW](#)

EYE OPENERS

In a Galaxy Far, Far Away

In case you were one of millions of people who didn't realize that George Lucas had made any movies outside of the "Star Wars" series, an old-school movie trailer will surely shed some light. You'll also learn why Don LaFontaine is the only guy doing preview voice-over work in Hollywood these days. | [ONLINE NOW](#)



comment board

As a pro-choice, professional woman, I am constantly disappointed in women in the media, most particularly Rosie O'Donnell. Young girls and women need positive, educated role models as opposed to Rosie's obnoxious, hateful, ignorant, oblivious and offensive rants."

COMMENTER CAC, VENTING HER FRUSTRATION ABOUT WOMEN IN THE MEDIA, ADDING THAT ROSIE O'DONNELL AND ANN COULTER MAKE WOMEN "LOOK LIKE MORONS."



She's not funny, she doesn't seem to be very intelligent, she's an embarrassment, and if Don Imus can lose his job for a racial slur, she should have lost hers for her slurs against Asians. I have no respect for Rosie ... O'Donnell at all and hope she winds up flipping a Big Mac for me someday."

COMMENTER DAMIEN KANE IS FINE WITH ROSIE'S DEPARTURE.

poll center

TODAY'S QUESTION

Are you following the presidential campaign yet?

1. Yes
2. No

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Is 'The View' better off without Rosie O'Donnell?

AS OF 5 P.M. THURSDAY. NOT A SCIENTIFIC POLL.

YES
74%

NO
26%

SEE HOW YOUR METRO STATION VOTED AT [READEXPRESS.COM/POLLCENTER.PHP](http://readexpress.com/pollcenter.php)

Blog LOG

"AU just received another \$80 from me when I ordered by graduation regalia. That school has more ways to squeeze extra dough from students."

GIRLFROMTHESOUTH.WORDPRESS.COM IS IRKED THAT AMERICAN UNIVERSITY FORCES GRADUATES TO PAY AN \$80 RENTAL FEE FOR A CAP AND GOWN.



ALEX WONG/GETTY IMAGES

[THEIR] FANS travel well because it's much more difficult/expensive to get tickets in Boston or New York, so they go elsewhere to catch a game. Also, no two teams in all of sports have had their band-wagons more overloaded in the last few years than them, so they have fans everywhere."

EEMACK.BLOGSPOT.COM ON WEDNESDAY'S ORIOLES-RED SOX GAME IN BALTIMORE.

I CAN'T UNDERSTAND why the city couldn't give an arts complex like the Warehouse some sort of protected status. Do we need another ... Starbucks or other franchise? Cities too often forget what makes them unique and interesting."

DCIST.COM COMMENTER REACTS TO THE THREATENED CLOSURE OF THE WAREHOUSE ARTS COMPLEX ON 7TH ST. NW BECAUSE OF RISING TAX ASSESSMENTS.

Live Online

Family Room Aid

Designer **JANE WALCZAK** of Liza Jane Interiors in Sterling, Va., was online Thursday at [washingtonpost.com](#) to offer advice about family room makeovers.

I have young kids, and I know microfiber is practical, but I just don't like it. Are there any family-friendly alternatives to microfiber?

You might try Sunbrella. They are making all types of fabulous fabric that stands up to outdoor use and can be used for interiors — especially ones with small children.

Could you please talk a little bit about your suggestion to use a metallic glaze on the ceiling? I am interested in using a glaze in my home but wonder whether it is best for ceilings or walls and under what conditions.

I chose a metallic finish to accentuate the gorgeous coffered ceiling. I might not have used it on a flat, nondescript ceiling. I love the new Benjamin Moore metallic paints. They can be used on just about anything (think cabinets!).

I need a designer to come and give me some advice about how to combine furniture from two households into one living space. Any recommendations?

If this were my project, I would

do a complete inventory of all the furniture, create a floor plan and then decide which pieces will work best in the new space. Sometimes it's hard to let go of sentimental items, but it can be very cathartic.

I like the idea of balancing French doors with furniture. Are there other alternatives to a large armoire?

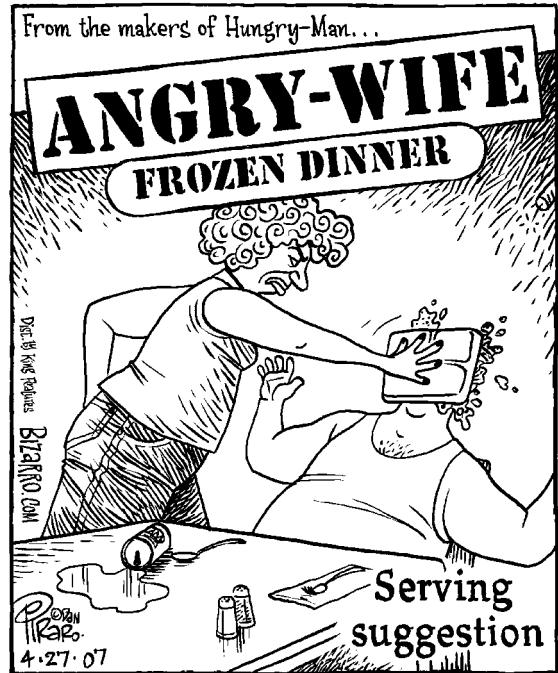
Absolutely. You can put a fabulous chest with a great piece of art. You can put one of the newer, low entertainment centers with the TV mounted on the wall.

TODAY ON LIVE ONLINE: Washington Post NFL insider Mark Maske will discuss the latest rumors on the eve of this weekend's NFL draft at 1 p.m. | [washingtonpost.com/liveonline](#)

DO

MAKE YOUR FRIENDS MERRY. And what better way to do that than by marrying them? The non-traditionalists out there may not want a man of the cloth presiding over their ceremony. Help your friends by becoming an ordained minister (www.olc.net). If nothing else, it's a useful skill to have.

Bizarro | Dan Piraro

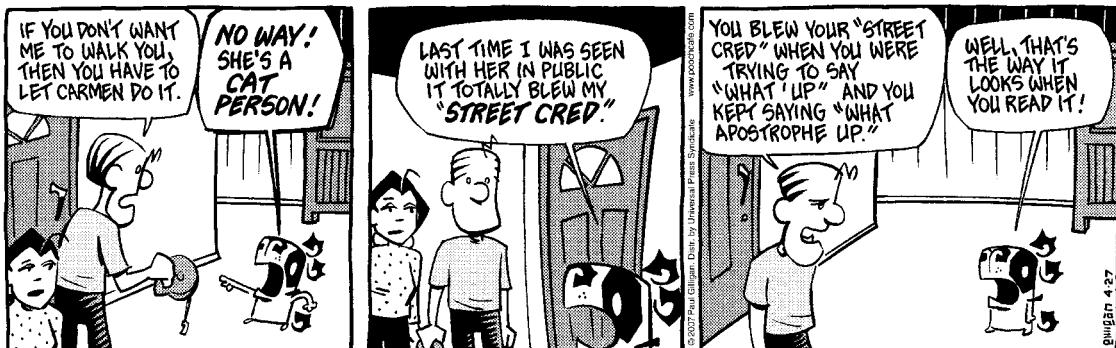


Cornered | Mike Baldwin



"I'm pretty sure I could teach you to dance. It's just like our relationship: one step forward, three steps back."

Pooch Cafe | Paul Gilligan



Pearls Before Swine | Stephan Pastis



The Duplex | Glenn McCoy



Horoscope

By Stella Wilder

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Take a calm and positive approach to all things, and you'll increase the excitement factor ten-fold. You want to be involved.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) You have no doubt things will work out to your advantage—and so, inevitably, they will. Keep your spirits up at all times.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) You may resent having to do things in a certain way during the first part of the day. Later on, you'll have the courage to break out on your own.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) A crisis is likely to develop revolving around personal issues and decisions affecting your home life. Take things one at a time.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Start small, and let yourself pick up the pace slowly and increase your involvement step by step until you're doing all you can.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) You're in the mood to do something that others will

consider honorable. Surely, you have what it takes to go the distance.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) Be willing to overlook those things that are trivial, and focus your energies on those things that really demand attention now.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) Your use of language and behavior to affect those around you must be planned with great care. Now is no time to improvise.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) A great deal is on the line, but you may feel as though someone has left you in the dark. Try to gather more information.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) Casual discussions with others born under your sign are sure to lead to major decisions—though you may doubt your own powers at first.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) Take care your admiration for someone else doesn't lead to a decision you'll ultimately regret. Your own ideas are valid.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Make careful choices, and you can keep the negative from catching up with you. Right now, the positive enables you to do anything.

Letters

Guns Can Deter Violence

IN RESPONSE TO Tuesday's letter, "Guns Aid Criminals' Actions," Nicolas Kotschoubey makes a valid point in the fact that any potential perpetrator would think twice about attacking any group of people who might be armed. As I grew up in a community in western Maryland, I can't recall one time that a house was broken into or a single person who was held at gunpoint. I would largely chalk this up to the fact that the majority of people

owned firearms. I am not proposing by any means that anyone and everyone should have full access to guns with rights to carry them everywhere they go. However, with proper background checks and required shooting proficiency tests, there could have been individuals in that victimized classroom who would have been able to protect themselves.

—ALEX EBERHART
College Park, Md.

Correction:

Thursday's "Today in History" stated that English colonists sought to establish a British settlement in Virginia in 1607. Britain did not exist at that time.

WRITE TO EXPRESS: Include name, hometown and telephone number. Submissions may be edited. E-mail to inbox@readexpress.com or mail to Express Letters, PO Box 17370, Arlington, VA 22216.

Today in History

1822 The 18th president of the United States, Ulysses S. Grant, is born in Point Pleasant, Ohio.

1967 Expo'67 is officially opened in Montreal by Canadian Prime Minister Lester B. Pearson.

1973 Amid the Watergate scandal, acting FBI director L. Patrick Gray resigns.

2006 Construction on the 1,776-foot Freedom Tower that will stand on the site of the World Trade Center begins.

Look out

People

SIGH

[Insert Tired Joke About Why Celebs Shouldn't Drive]

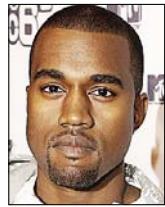
Rapper-actress **EVE** was arrested for investigation of driving under the influence after she crashed a Maserati at 2:45 a.m. on Hollywood Boulevard Thursday. She was booked on misdemeanor drunken driving and posted \$30,000 bail and is scheduled to return to court May 17. (AP)



[Caption expressing indignation that celebrities don't just use a car service.]

TRIBUTES

Candle's Still in the Wind



KANYE WEST, Rod Stewart and Lily Allen have been added to the lineup of artists for a summer concert in mem-

ory of Princess Diana. The July 1 show at London's Wembley Stadium also includes Duran Duran, Elton John, Joss Stone and Pharrell Williams. It marks her 46th birthday on July 1 as well as the 10th anniversary of her death. The concert will also include songs by Andrew Lloyd Webber. (AP)

APPEARANCES

Actress Smaller in Person, D.C. Finds

ANGELINA JOLIE brought her star power to D.C. Thursday to illuminate the plight of orphan children and push the government to spend more money for universal education in developing countries. "This is a happy day, because it is not often enough that these children are represented in this town," Jolie said. She appeared to open the D.C. headquarters of Global Action for Children, an advocacy group formed in 2003. (AP)



MANISH SWARUP/AP

5 Day Forecast for the Washington Area



Mostly cloudy, thunderstorms



Early thunderstorm, partly cloudy



Partly cloudy



Partly sunny, breezy

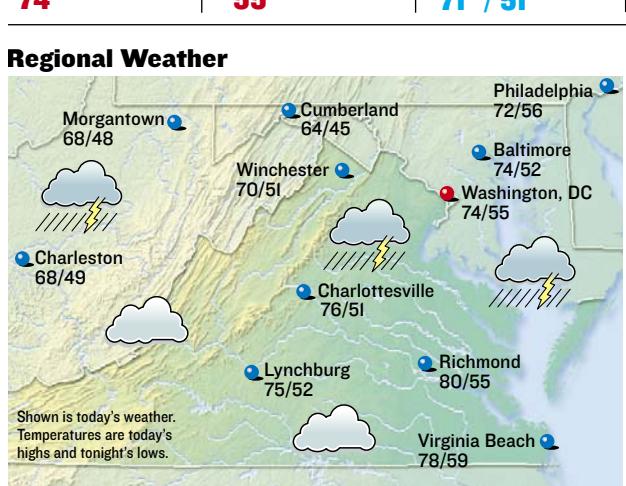


Partly sunny, breezy



Mostly sunny, breezy, warm

Regional Weather



Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2007

Almanac

Washington, D.C., through 4 p.m. Thur.

Temperature

High	60°
Low	52°
Normal high	70°
Normal low	49°
Average humidity	69%

Precipitation

24 hours ending 4 p.m.	Trace
Month to date	3.96"
Normal month to date	2.37"
Year to date	11.83"
Last year to date	8.86"
Normal year to date	11.81"

For up-to-the-minute weather, see: washingtonpost.com/weather

Regional Forecast

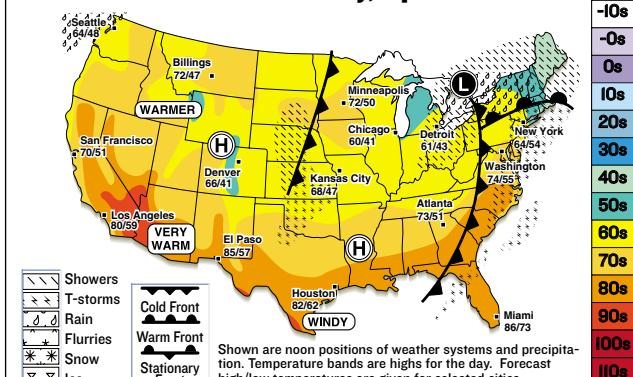
D.C. Metro: Today, thunderstorms, mostly cloudy. High 74. Wind southwest 8-16 mph. Tonight, thunderstorm early, partly cloudy. Low 55.

Sun and Moon

Sunrise today 6:16 a.m.
Sunset tonight 7:56 p.m.
Moonrise today 3:44 p.m.
Moonset today 4:05 a.m.

	Full	Last	New	First
May 2	May 10	May 16	May 23	

National Weather for Friday, April 27



National Cities

City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Hi/Lo/W	Sat. Hi/Lo/W	City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Hi/Lo/W	Sat. Hi/Lo/W
Atlanta	73/51/pc	69/50/pc	75/54/s	Amsterdam	75/54/s	77/54/s	77/54/s
Boston	54/48/r	60/46/c	68/54/pc	Athens	68/54/pc	70/54/pc	70/54/pc
Chicago	60/41/c	70/45/pc	79/54/s	Berlin	79/54/s	77/52/s	77/52/s
Dallas	79/59/pc	80/57/pc	68/50/s	Buenos Aires	66/48/s	68/50/s	68/50/s
Denver	66/41/s	78/48/s	64/43/c	Calgary	64/43/c	66/37/c	66/37/c
Honolulu	85/71/s	85/73/s	59/48/sh	Dublin	59/48/sh	63/48/pc	63/48/pc
Los Angeles	80/59/pc	80/58/pc	73/46/pc	Geneva	73/46/pc	73/50/pc	73/50/pc
Miami	86/73/pc	87/72/pc	64/46/pc	Moscow	64/46/pc	52/32/c	52/32/c
New York City	64/54/t	67/50/c	72/52/pc	Rome	72/52/pc	72/50/pc	72/50/pc
Orlando	87/66/pc	87/62/pc	66/60/c	Sydney	66/60/c	70/55/t	70/55/t
Seattle	64/48/pc	62/45/c	65/54/s	Tokyo	65/54/s	67/54/pc	67/54/pc

s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, i-ice.



Maybe he can still visit Vatican City.

INTERNATIONAL

U.N. Bans Snoop, Saves Rest of World the Trouble

SNOOP DOGG has been refused entry into Australia because of his extensive criminal record. Dogg was due to fly into Sydney this week to co-host the MTV Australia Video Music Awards. Dogg's visa was canceled because he had failed to pass the country's strict character test, which takes criminal convictions into account. (AP)

AILING

Regis Returns to TV, 'Doesn't Feel That Great'

REGIS PHILBIN is back on "Live With Regis and Kelly" but is still not 100 percent, he says, six weeks after his triple heart bypass surgery. Philbin, 75, returned to his show Thursday. The audience cheered as he walked in. "My chest hurts," he told reporters. "People keep telling me, 'Hey, you look great.' I don't feel that great, but I'm happy to be here." (AP)

LOOK out

You Don't Say

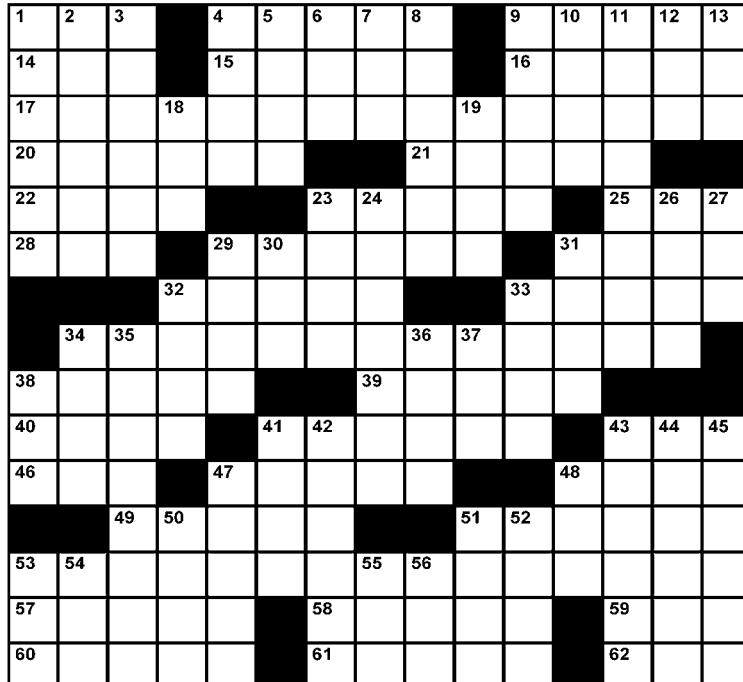
ACROSS

1 Fetched
4 Rice dish
9 Thin, fibrous bark
14 Old preposition
15 Dunne of "I Remember Mama"
16 West Indies sorcery
17 Freely communicating
20 Investor's goal
21 Some undergraduates
22 One of the Brady kids
23 Nautical position
25 Deplete (with "up")
28 Where beauty is, to the beholder
29 Seek to replace current tenants
31 Pro ___ (in proportion)
32 Some have boards
33 Check the books
34 Enunciation challenge
38 Moth stages
39 Pal of Potsie and Richie
40 Help when one shouldn't
41 Victor's share
43 Iniquity
46 It gets steamrollered
47 Great time or great noise
48 Vaudeville dancer's prop
49 Brilliant achievement

DOWN

1 First name of three U.S. presidents
2 Like a mule, stereotypically
3 Exam taker
4 Mooring spot
5 Zagros
Mountains locale
6 Albanian currency
7 Hangman request
8 Good ones make good neighbors
9 Tribal symbol on a pole
10 Tucked in
11 Twist someone's arm
12 She was Mindy to Robin's Mork
13 Exclamations of contentedness
18 Small toy dog
19 Zodiac animal
23 On the sheltered side
24 Modest cafes
26 Mix with a

51 Aid to digestion
53 How natives communicate
57 One receiving womb service?
58 Who might be to blame
59 Poem of devotion
60 Rock layers
61 Works the bar
62 Kind of tag or tape



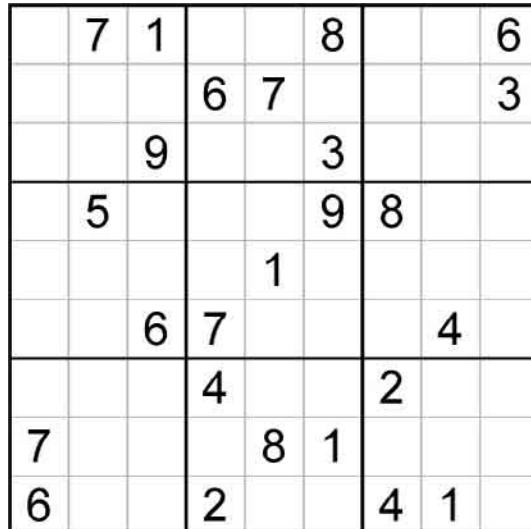
EDITED BY TIMOTHY PARKER

Sudoku

Degree of Difficulty: HARD

Fill in the boxes so each row, column and 3-by-3 square includes the digits 1 through 9. For solution, tips and computer program, see www.sudoku.com

Need more Sudoku?
Find another Sudoku puzzle in the Comics section of the Post every Sunday and in the Style section every Monday through Saturday.



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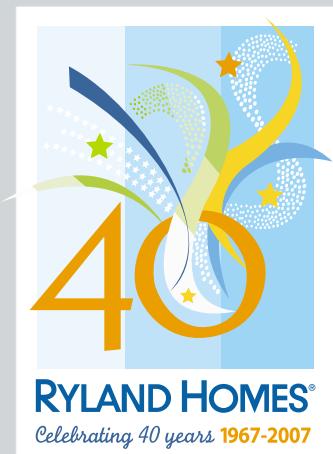
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Weekend Styles

APRIL 27-29, 2007

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a mod frock,
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face time

■ **Leading ladies are hot**, while their best friends are kooky. Judy Greer magically manages to combine both of these qualities, making her one of the most appealing character actresses in Tinseltown. For her latest role, she whips out a BlackBerry as a Hollywood manager in "The TV Set," a scathing send-up network television's mediocrity.

You're a knitter, right? So, what's your favorite thing you've made?

There's one sweater I wear all the time. It's a black cardigan that ties at the waist. It's maybe not my favorite thing, but it's super-practical. The crazier stuff I've done, I never wear because it's too crazy. And some of my stuff looks too homemade, and I don't like that, so I give it to my mother.

So, what look do you like?

I've fallen in love with Leoffler Randall shoes. I have these high-waisted jeans by Grey Ant that I wear with clogs and some kind of girly top.

Are you picky about what you get to wear on camera?

Not really. A lot of the characters I

play are characters, so I don't usually play people in great outfits. My big thing is that it should be something the character can afford. For this pilot I did recently, I play a high school guidance counselor, so the costume designer brought back all of these clothes from Target and Wal-Mart. They're all tailored to fit me because it has to be Hollywood, so it looks like Marc Jacobs. But I liked that.

Did you put some thought into what this character would wear?

She did well financially, but she didn't have a ton of money, so I figured she'd have four great suits — with not-so-great blouses — and great shoes and handbags. She spends more than she should on clothes, but she's responsible.



COURTESY JUDY GREER

Judy Greer

ACTRESS, 'THE TV SET,' 'TWO AND A HALF MEN'

Did you want anything of hers?

There was a Chanel handbag that I begged for, but they wouldn't give it to me. I have asked for or bought clothes before when it's been something specifically tailored for my body. It's nice to have those things in your closet.

Do you still do ballet?

When I first got to L.A., I hadn't danced in years, but I went to a beginner class at the Edge to stay in shape. They were all professional dancers and I thought I was going to die.

After class, I was ready for the senior center. When I told my friends I went to the Edge, they were like, "Are you crazy?"

"I spent last year doing Ashtanga yoga, but now I've joined Curves."

What do you do to stay in shape?

Well, I spent last year doing Ashtanga yoga, but now I've joined Curves and I love Curves. I hike with my dog there and do my workout and I look great. No one believes me, but it's the best.

Where else do you take your dog?

We go on long walks. My neighborhood is cute, but the one next to mine has all of these big houses and we can look in the windows at night — although I shouldn't admit to that.

What would I see if I walked my dog past your window at night?

Nothing, because my shades are always down. But you'd see my dog barking from the couch. My house is all vintage-y, even though it's new construction. VICKY HALLETT (EXPRESS)

IN THE POST TODAY



Revisiting the First Settlement

Jamestown is celebrating its 400th birthday and you're invited to the festivities. In today's Weekend section, a guide to what's happening and when.

Also in Weekend: Best bets for fun. Shows to catch. Plus, what's new at the movies, on DVD and in video games.

Great weekends start with the Weekend section. Get it today!

The Washington Post



Grab Bag

1 Lots of Flash for Little Cash

EVEN THE PAGES OF THIS PAPER are guilty of promoting outfits that cost as much as your mortgage. So, it's delightful to see an affordable new spot like Current Boutique (2529 Wilson Blvd., Arlington; 703-528-3079). You'll find inexpensive-but-chic new women's pieces (like A-List's azure knit dress, above, \$36), vintage accessories such as a pimento-red purse (above, \$29) only the hippest of grannies could pull off, and designer consignment.

4

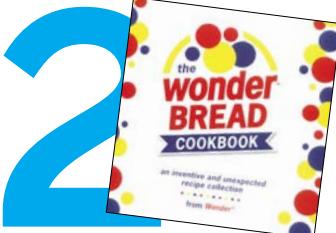
Bloom Service

YELLOW AND BROWN daisies festoon place mats and gigantic black seed pods bedeck napkins in Simrin's new spring tabletop line. Inspired by nature and retro cucinas, the cotton charmers (\$26-\$72, velocityartanddesign.com) lend meals a groovy, gotta-get-back-to-the-garden vibe.



5 Frugal Fanciness

SCORING RESERVATIONS at one of uber-chef Mario Batali's New York City restaurants is nigh impossible. Now the Iron Chef has launched a line of frozen Italian meals for plebeians. Both the orecchiette with Italian sausage and broccoli, and the gemelli with meatballs serve five and are ready in about 20 minutes, straight from either the stove top or the microwave. Available at Sam's Club, BJ's and Costco, the meals will run you \$11—about the cost of an appetizer at Babbo in New York.



2 Wonder Thrall

HERE'S A FUNNY WORD: Wonderstrudel. It comes from the new "Wonder Bread Cookbook" (\$13, Ten Speed Press), featuring recipes made from those squishy white slices of refined flour. The sandwiches are boring, but desserts like Wonderful Crêpes Suzette look hilariously yummy.

3 Squirt Away Scurvy

IT LOOKS LIKE A PEAR, but Silicone Zone's Lemon-Lime Squeezer (\$6, laprimashops.com) is meant to put the moves on citrus. The deal? You slice a lemon or lime and stick one half of it (cut-side down) into the rubbery thingy, squashing tightly to release juice sans seeds and pulp. It's best for small jobs—mixing gins and tonics, livening up fish fillets or unwisely trying to lighten your hair in the sun—since it would take eons to make lemonade this way.

dear manolo

ANSWERS FROM THE SHOEBUGGER

I handle show dogs and, unfortunately, dog handlers are notorious frumps. I am resolutely unfrumpy, so I need a pair of low-heeled shoes that are sporty, great for both indoors and outdoors, and will work with a suit for a formal occasion. — JENNIE

■ Manolo says, it is no secret that the Manolo is the dog person. Indeed, as the tiny impoverished boy he owned the small rat terrier, although, in hindsight, given that "Pepillo" lived in the hole in the baseboard, he may actually have been the largish rat.



This would have accounted for the rude reception the teeny Manolo received when he attempted to register Pepillo as the purebred with the Real Sociedad Canina de España.

Nevertheless, the Manolo and Pepillo were devoted to each other as only the small boy and the small dog and/or rat can be, and many were the times the Manolo was lulled to sleep by the sounds of his gnawing.

Here is the smart, tailored low-heeled shoe from the Marc Jacobs (\$221, zappos.com) that would make the frumpier dog handlers envious of your style.

Ask the Manolo a question at manolo@shoeblogs.com. Visit the Manolo at shoeblogs.com.

ON THE COVER

Rita wears a Reiss dress (\$230, 1254 Wisconsin Ave. NW), H&M hoops (\$3.90), a Wet Seal headband (\$4) and a Catherine Rapetti cuff (\$40, Alex Boutique, 1919 Pennsylvania Ave. NW; 202-296-2610). Hair and makeup by Victoria Stiles, T.H.E. Artist Agency. Model, T.H.E. Artist Agency. Photo by Lawrence Luk.

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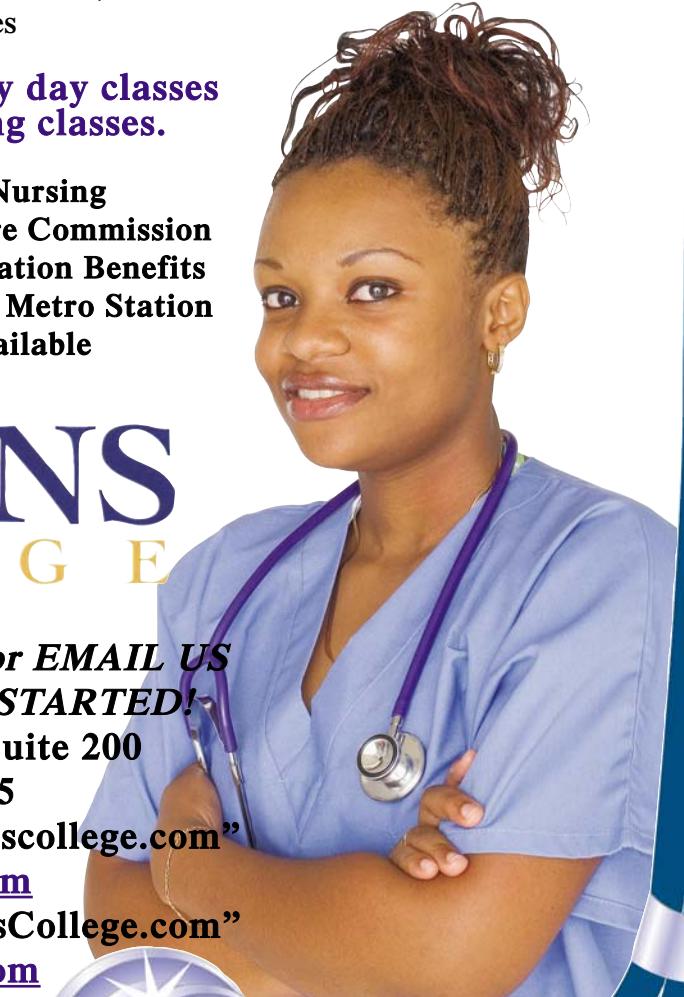
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One Snazzy Dresser

How to give cast-off items the chance to live again

In our new semi-regular feature, writer and frequent DIYer Julia Beizer — with fiance Tom, a former carpenter who now works in the construction industry — will guide you through basic home-improvement projects and crafts.

DIY
DUO

There's an outdoor shack at my parents' house where old furniture goes to die. Or, rather, linger forever in a purgatory of dust and cobwebs. Naturally, this seemed like the best possible spot to score some free furniture.

I went home with my dad's old dresser, circa 1967. It had lots of space and funky drawer knobs, and was a major improvement over the milk crates I'd been using.

But my dresser extraordinaire's wood was stained a deep mahogany. It needed a makeover before it could truly blend in with its new family: a vast collection of birch veneer tables and bookshelves from Ikea.

PREP: Refinishing wood furniture is messy and smelly, so it's best to take it outdoors. Yes, you could do it inside, but sawdust from the sanding will stick to everything in its path, and you'll need drop cloths and proper ventilation for the fume-y staining process. Wherever you work, make sure to wear a mask or bandana to keep scratchy sawdust out of your throat.

STEP ONE: SANDING. Repetitive, boring and rough on the hands, sanding is possibly the worst of all DIY activities. But you can't transform a thrift store find without it.

First, remove the drawers and any hardware, especially metal. Attack expansive surfaces with medium-grit sandpaper; use fine-grit for crevasses and drawer pulls. Rub, rub, rub in the direction of the wood's grain with medium pres-



Dad's old 1960s dresser, rescued from a shed of furniture rejects, went from a "Brady Bunch"-ish mahogany to a cheery honey brown with cherry undertones.

sure, until the old stain is gone, but the details of the woodwork remain intact.

Fold the sandpaper around a block of wood if you need a sharp edge to access nooks and crannies. Give your treasure one last once-over with the fine-grit paper, then brush off all the sawdust.

Impatient types may want to invest in a palm sander, an electric gadget that'll do the hard work for you. Using that, it took us about three hours to strip the dresser.

STEP TWO: STAINING. Always test your stain in an inconspicuous spot,

because it may produce unexpected results. We settled on a natural stain, but it revealed pinkish cherry-wood tones we didn't want.

You also have to choose between oil- or water-based stain. The latter offers a broader range of colors — merlot reds, antiquey greens. But these quick-drying formulas are less forgiving than their oil-based cousins, which can be smoothed on at a slower pace.

The stain also determines the type of varnish you'll use in the next step. Essentially, oil and water don't mix. It's best to use a water-based varnish with a water-based stain,

and the same goes for oil. Oil-based polyurethane varnish can give wood a yellowish look.

Now, dampen a rag or some cheesecloth with the stain and apply it to the wood, going in the direction of the grain. Let it soak in for a few seconds, then mop up the excess — you don't want the

SHOPPING LIST

- Quart of stain: \$10
- Quart of polyurethane: \$10
- Sandpaper, three packs: \$12
- Rags and brushes: \$25
- **TOTAL COST: \$57**
- Optional palm sander: \$30 to \$50 — but well worth it.

stain to pool, especially a quick-drying water-based formula. Follow the directions on the can with regard to drying time; it can take as long as 12 hours between coats. Generally, two coats of stain will do.

STEP THREE: VARNISH. The final step in any refinishing job is two clear coats of varnish, which serves as a protective barrier. This is what saves your newly refinished possession from rude, non-coaster-using party guests.

Varnishes range from mellow matte to high-gloss sheen. Use a brush, not a rag, to apply the sticky goop — your hands will thank you. The stuff's impervious to soap and water, and can only be removed with paint thinner (and sometimes that doesn't even work). When we refinished our floors, I had polyurethane stuck on my arms and fingers for weeks.

If you like the natural color of the wood, you could forgo the stain all together and finish the piece varnish alone. Minwax — our brand of choice — offers tips for DIYers on minwax.com.

IS IT WORTH IT? The sheer monotony of sanding makes this project a tedious one — just ask Tom, who did most of it. But the staining process is simple and satisfying and gives dramatic new life to old, dated furniture.

mixed
media



There's no dining room in this tiny pad.

BOOKS

Less Is Snore

■ Use eco-friendly building materials! Don't buy too much stuff! Good design isn't just about granite countertops and mammoth bathtubs! The ideas put forth in Sarah Nettleton's "The Simple Home: The Luxury of Enough" (\$40, Taunton) seem good and noble. But this book comes across as a tad preachy, and the slightly ho-hum photos of rather ordinary homes made this reviewer want to cuddle up with a nice Pottery Barn catalog. JENNIFER BARGER (EXPRESS)

BOOKS

MacGyver Manual

■ A roll of aluminum foil doesn't seem so super, but "Extraordinary Uses for Ordinary Things" (\$16, Reader's Digest) reveals 51 ways to use the shiny stuff to accomplish an array of tasks, from polishing silver to improving radiator efficiency. The book's 2,317 tips rely on about 200 common household items. Some don't jibe with reality (using a pillowcase as wrapping paper?), and others are way obvious (putting glassware in newspaper when you're moving), but they show how much you can accomplish without going shopping. VICKY HALLETT (EXPRESS)



event
horizon

Oh, la, la! Zee stretch of Wisconsin Avenue between P and Reservoir turns into an open-air French market April 27-28, 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Find antiques and clothes at bargain prices, and snack on Parisian fare.

Styles | fashion

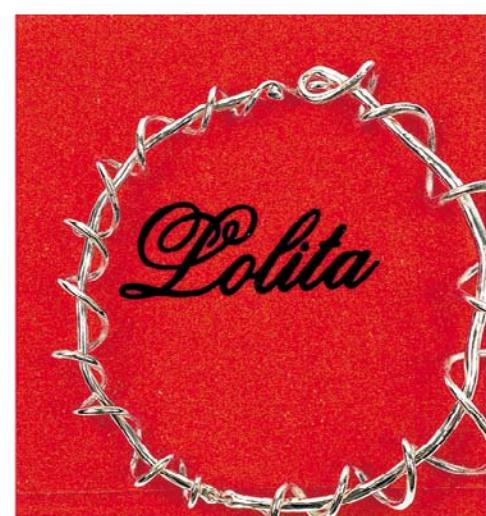


VIVA VENUS

Paillettes shaped like Saturn's rings decorate Alice & Olivia's showy shift. (\$440, Cusp, 3030 M St. NW, 202-625-0898)

BLAST OFF

So "Star Wars" babe, Cecile Jeanne's choker could blast you into orbit. (\$345, Céline de Paris, 2904 M St. NW; 202-298-0025)



GALACTIC GLAM

Enamel ornaments dress up space suit-gray satin flats, which would add stellar style to jeans or a cocktail dress. (\$215, Reiss, 1254 Wisconsin Ave. NW; 202-944-8565)



Forward Flash

Stiletto-clad "Battlestar Galactica" robots. Jane Fonda in bondage-girl gear in "Barbarella." Judy Jetson and perky minis. Sci-fi teaches us that the fashions of the future are so bright, we're gonna have to wear shades of silver, shoes of Lucite and cyborg-chic jackets. Jetpack-set styles have time-traveled back into fashion, bringing mod, 1960s-meets-2060s looks. But unlike the last time the future was now, metallic dresses show up in soft fabrics and sparkly shoes come in wearable shapes. "Collections are edgy but not so conceptual," says Alex Boutique's Liberty Jones. This means even earthlings can wear this stuff. ELIZABETH P. GIBBENS

CLEARLY COOL

Jelly sandals by KORS Michael Kors seem apropos for a shuttle landing or a beach wedding—even if you're the bride. (\$85, Cusp)

SPACE SACK

Crystal spheres and metal rings lend this bag a Mad Max look. (\$150, Nido, 1425 Wisconsin Ave. NW; 202-333-5445)



METEOR MAID

Nylon Flocks' silk dress rocks (\$330, Alex, 1919 Pennsylvania Ave. NW; 202-296-2610) with plastic hoops (\$25, Bloomingdale's) and Lucite wedges (\$89, ninewest.com).

fashion | Styles


GLIMMER THINS

Superfine Jeans just added a glimmering silver finish to its denim line. This skinny pair packs a Ziggy Stardust punch with a rock 'n' roll tee. (\$284, Cusp) 0898)


BLAST OF FANTASTIC

Like a wearable star cluster, Kenneth Jay Lane's rhinestone bracelet adds a dressy groove to work wear or cocktail frocks. (\$195, Kate Spade, 3061 M St. NW; 202-333-8302)

NOW YOU SEE IT

Ray Bradbury novels, Milky Ways — whatever you tote in this plastic bag is on display, so keep it neat. (\$89, ninewest.com)


STAR BELT

Ground this season's swingy tops and frocks with Caracouture's see-through plastic cincher, which would look haute over cobalt blue. (\$88, Cusp)

A GLORY TO BE GOLD

Shoot into a summer party wearing Stella McCartney's feminine (and vegan) heels with baggy nylon parachute pants and a tank top. Bare yet comfy, these babies are actually fit to stand in. (\$545, Hu's Shoes, 3005 M St. NW; 202-342-0202)



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Styles | entertaining



Essential Derby duds and decor from caufields.com: jockey helmets (\$1.95), a horseshoe garland (\$20), yard signs (\$15), a jockey costume (\$46) and the ever-popular horse-tail belt (\$10). Don't worry — the hair is entirely synthetic.

Kentucky-Fied Fête

An authentic Derby Day party is a few Web sites away

As if Cinco de Mayo wasn't going to be party-packed enough, May 5 offers another reason to live it up in style: the Kentucky Derby.

"I like to watch the Derby every year, but usually it's just me and my boyfriend," says Cynthia Kopkowski, 29, of Adams Morgan. "I thought this year having a party would be very fun." But the specifics were daunting. "Lots of Google searches" eventually led Kopkowski to plastic mint-julep cups and jockey helmets. She put 4 p.m. on her Evite, hoping folks would straggle in by the race's 6 p.m. start.

We skipped the Googling and dialed up Louisville experts for the down and, er, derby details on what it takes to make a great bash.

Derby-Style Dining

First, the mint juleps. "Flavor them with a tiny bit of mint syrup, because bourbon is still pretty sweet," suggests Louisville Courier-Journal food editor Sarah Fritschner, author of "Derby Start to Finish" (\$23, Butler). "The time to pour and pass them is when the horses are in the paddock and they're playing 'My Old Kentucky Home.'"

Fritschner-approved snacks include bib lettuce ("like Boston

head lettuce but darker," she says), cheese grits, Benedictine ("a cucumber and onion-flavored cream-cheese spread") and hot browns (toast with turkey, bacon, Mornay sauce and tomatoes). Or serve beef tenderloin with Henry Baines sauce (named for the Louisville maitre d' who invented it) and Rebecca sauce (sour cream and brown sugar seasoned with brandy or bourbon) over strawberries.

As essential as the julep is Derby



Only Kentucky's Kern's Kitchen can call a pie "Derby" — the name's trademarked.

Pie. The race's official confection can be ordered from Kern's Kitchen (\$14, derbypie.com), the family-owned company that created the chocolate-nut recipe 50 years ago. "We usually run about 2,000 pies a week," says President Alan Rupp. "Now, we're running about 6,000." He suggests serving it warm for the flavor to "really blossom."

Work the Hattitude

Ladies, bring on the sass and class with a big old floppy hat. "When

"Go in your closet and pull out a scarf; find a flower or a brooch."

you make your grand red-carpet entrance at the Derby, it's definitely like the Oscars," says Angie Schultz, creator of Louisville's Attitudes by Angie. Her creations run \$75 to \$1,500 at attitudesbyangie.com.

To build your own, "think about what kind of hat looks best on you," says Schultz. "Then go in your closet and pull out a scarf; find a flower or put a brooch on it." And don't forget to slant it to the left.

For the more adventurous, there's the jockey costume. They're a best-seller, says Stacy Johnson, co-owner of Caufield's Novelty Inc. (caufields.com) in Louisville. Also a hot look: the faux horse-tail belt (\$10, Caufield's). The Halloween prop is a Derby favorite: "We sell a whole lot more now than we do in October," says Johnson.

The Photo-Finishing Touch

Background music won't get more authentic than "The Sounds of Kentucky" by Angela Bartley (\$12, amazon.com), bugler of the Kentucky Derby Museum. "Ten minutes before the race, let 'Call to the Post' play," she says. That's the 15-second bugle call when the horses enter the track.

A step further: Download the "Call to the Post" ringtone off isound.com or charitytunes.com. "I hear somebody's phone go off and it's my 'Call to the Post' playing," says Bartley. "It's really cool!"

bash in a flash



I Think That I Shall Never See

With spring (and pollen) in the air, the best way to celebrate the reappearance of leaves on trees is to plant more of the latter. Lucky for you — today is Arbor Day! Since 1872, Arbor Day has honored (duh) trees, so find some friends who don't mind dirt and get growing.

When sowing a sapling, there are a few things to keep in mind, said Pat Gillette of the Merrifield Garden Center (merrifieldgardencenter.com). Planters need to "look at how much sun and shade they have, and how well the soil drains," she says. Once you've found a good spot, dig a hole that's twice as big around as the root ball of the tree. Gillette also notes that D.C.-area soil tends to drain poorly, so you should add a soil amendment (that's any material that improves the soil, like peat or compost) to the dirt you use to fill the planting hole.

Though trees are happy eating water and sunlight, guests need more substantial fare. Pick up some almond bark (\$17 for a pound) at Chocolate Chocolate (1050 Connecticut Ave. NW) and serve other tree-like foods (we like broccoli and pretzel rods). Remember: Bashes in Flashes are made by fools like me, but anyone can plant a tree. JAMIE PAGE DEATON

 event horizon

Celebrate your seasonal closet cleanup! Don something silly and tote along the rest to Grand Central (2447 18th St. NW) for a party benefitting Community of Hope. (\$10 cover, Sat., 8 p.m.-11 p.m.)

KRIS CORONADO



Q How are you working to save the Earth?

ALERO | U STREET | APRIL 21

1. "Instead of driving from N.Y. to D.C., I took mass transit," Roz Mays, left. "And I walked," Kelli Perkins. **2.** "I'm a rabid recycler," Lindsay Clement, with Brian Clark. **3.** "Drive my SUV," Lindsay Fincher, with Phil Chambers. **4.** "I run an adopt-a-highway program," Nikhil Agarwal, left, with Sheetal Doshi. **5.** "Watch 'An Inconvenient Truth,' document Gore's hypocrisy, do the opposite," Will Emslie, left, with Chris Burch, right, and Johnny Rodriguez. **6.** "Recycle my newspaper," Alicia Melton, left. "Pick up trash for Earth Day," Tianna Seals, center, with Nicole Woodard. MAURA JUDKIS AND ERIN SHEA



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Government of the District of Columbia
Adrian M. Fenty, Mayor



Department of Employment Services
Summer Spencer, Acting Director

B.I.O.

BY INVITATION ONLY: UPCOMING WEDDINGS & UNIONS



Frederick Briscoe, Mikael Carter

Frederick, 34, is a legal instruments examiner with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. Mikael, 30, is a training technician at Mantech International. They live in Suitland.

■ **The Main Event:** A casual, outdoor ceremony at a resort in Jamaica. About 60 relatives and friends will be watching as they wed in a waterfront gazebo at sunset on May 18.

■ **How They Met:** Via an online dating site.

■ **First Impressions:** "She was pretty and cool, but I knew that she was the rela-

tionship type, so I didn't want to meet her in person," says Frederick. "I wasn't looking for a relationship at the time."

■ **First Date:** Lunch at Hops. ■ **How He Proposed:** "I was watching television one night at his house. He stood in front of me and told me not to say a word until he was done," says Mikael.

■ **Most Hated Clothing Item:** "Somehow, all the things I don't like seem to disappear," says Mikael slyly.

■ **Their Song:** "Wait for Love" by Luther Vandross. "I can remember feeling like I was never going to have what we have, and that was the song that reminded me it would come one day," says Mikael.

■ **Stupidest Fight:** Mikael got mad when Frederick called her a "bed hog."

■ **Pet Names:** She calls him "Stink;" he calls her "Baby."

"It came to a point where I realized I couldn't see myself without him."

Mario Arrington, Katherine Lavado

Katherine, 29, is a human resources specialist for the federal government. Mario, 33, is a registered client associate at an investment firm. They live in Washington.

■ **The Main Event:** "We love to take vacations in Las Vegas, so we decided to get married there," say the couple, whose semiformal wedding will take place May 6 at Caesar's Palace.

■ **Honeymoon:** Peru.

■ **How They Met:**

In the elevator of Katherine's building, where Mario was visiting a friend — who happened to be his future wife's next-door neighbor.

■ **First Date:** ESPN

Zone in Baltimore.

■ **How He Proposed:** "With every-

one we love around us," says Katherine, who said "yes" during a cookout held at her parents' home.

■ **Their Song:** "La Vida es Un Carnaval"



by Celia Cruz. "I can't fully salsa dance yet, but I'm getting better," says Mario.

■ **Most Hated Clothing Item:** "Her nylon knee-highs," says Mario.

■ **Stupidest Fight:** "Over the difference

between staying with someone and living with someone," they say. "And over when we officially became a couple," adds Mario.

■ **When He Knew:** "When I saw that our Blockbuster nights and together time started to become more frequent and I didn't mind a bit," says Mario.

■ **Pet Names:** She calls him "Papi;" he calls her "Gatita."

■ **Making It Unique:** Fourteen doves will be released during the ceremony.

■ **Wedding Jitters:** "Lost luggage — especially if it has my dress in it," says Katherine.

A Mini Romance

On May 19, **CAROL MC LAUGHLIN** and **ERIC KENNEDY** will walk down the aisle together for the second time. But it's not what you think — they met when she was a bridesmaid and he was a groomsman in a friend's wedding. "I wonder why I was never introduced to this cute friend of the groom's before," Carol recalls thinking. "I was excited to be paired with the tall, blond groomsman." Eric, too, was smitten: "She was easy to talk to and very cute."

Other than each other, Carol and Eric share another love — Mini Coopers. Carol knew she'd found The One when they gave each other the same gifts for Christmas: red, white-topped toy Mini Coopers. Two years ago, they bought the real thing together. And for their big day, "we'd like to recruit enough Minis to serve limo duty and follow us in our Mini from the wedding to the reception." Their biggest fear? "Lack of Minis."

Carol, 32, is a vice president at the American Advertising Federation. Eric, 30, is a Ph.D. student at Virginia Tech. They'll live in Christiansburg, Va.



Gerald Barnes, Dani Levenson

Dani, 36, is an operations manager for the Federal Aviation Administration. Gerald, who goes by Mike, is 33. He is an auto mechanic for Fitzgerald Wheaton Dodge. They live in Silver Spring.

■ **The Main Event:** A semiformal Jewish ceremony for about 130 guests in Warrenton, Va., on June 24.

■ **How They Met:** While watching sports at the Stained Glass Pub in Silver Spring. Then, "we were friends for a couple years until Cinco de Mayo — then the tequila changed it all!"

■ **First Impressions:** "She's cute, and she likes sports? Wow, how lucky can I get?!" said Mike.

"She's cute, and she likes sports? Wow, how lucky can I get?!" says Mike.

■ **First Date:** Ricciuti's in Olney. "We fed each other every bite of the appetizer, dinner and dessert," the couple says.

■ **How He Proposed:** Mike asked Dani to "be his wife for the rest of his life" on Halloween.

■ **Their Song:** "Your Man" by Josh Turner, says Mike. "It's how I felt for a long time."

■ **Stupidest Fight:** "All of them."

■ **Most Hated Clothing Item:** "There's not enough room in the paper" to list them all, says Dani.

■ **When She Knew:** After Dani let Mike's dog, Lucy — now their dog — move in before Mike did.

■ **Wedding Jitters:** Dani fears rain will foil their outdoor ceremony.



Getting Married? If you'd like to see your wedding or commitment ceremony in B.I.O., send your favorite informal photograph (wacky is fine, but please don't send a formal engagement shot), plus your names and ceremony date to weddings@readexpress.com. Please contact us at least one month before your wedding. We'll get back to you with some questions as your big day approaches.



SU DO KU

DIFFICULTY LEVEL: MIDDLEWEIGHT

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Last Week's Solution

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7	1	3	5	8	4	2	9	6
9	2	8	7	6	3	5	1	4

How to Play

The rules of Samurai Sudoku are the same as in the popular Sudoku puzzles that appear in Express and The Washington Post.

As with standard Sudoku, the Samurai version requires no math, just logic, reasoning ... and an iron will. The goal is to fill in each column, row and 3x3 box with the digits 1 through 9 without repeating any. The twist in Samurai Sudoku is that the digits that appear in the overlapping boxes must work for both puzzles.

A piece of advice to get you started: Don't focus on completing one grid at a time. Keep the whole puzzle in mind as you go, because filling in a number in one grid could give you clues to another. As always, there's only one solution, which will appear in next week's edition of Weekend Styles.

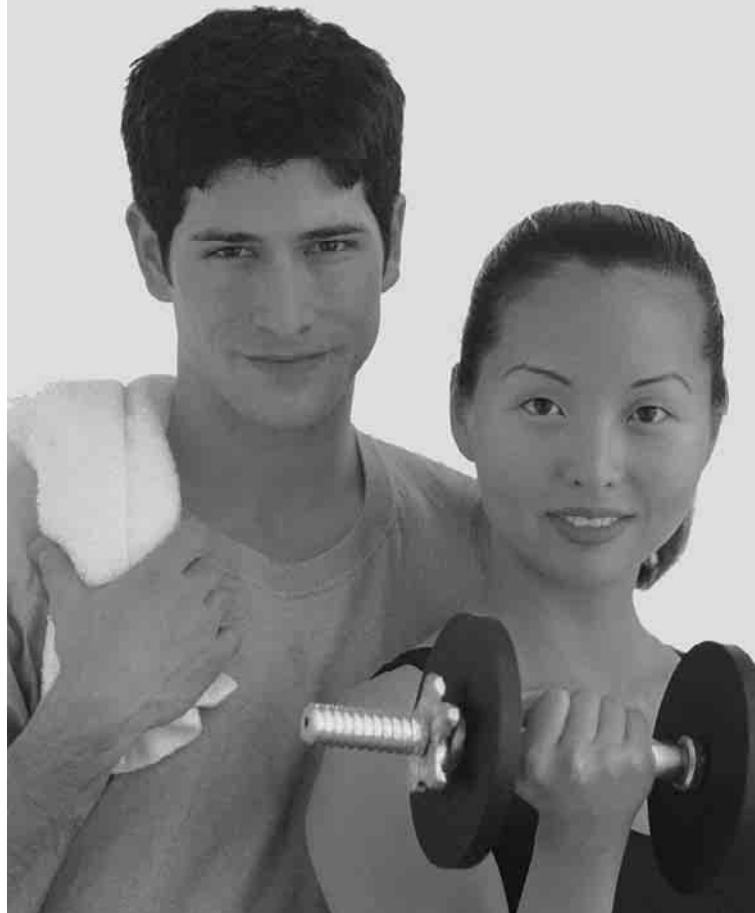
 **Can't get enough Sudoku?** Find a standard Sudoku puzzle in the Comics section of the Post every Sunday and in the Style section every Monday through Saturday.

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Guardian Angles

Hip gadgets protect you and your pad from fire, rats and bandits | **E12**



A Safety Glance

To stay secure in your condo, check the locks, windows and 'hood | **E2**



Views vs. Yards

Freewheeling condos and freestanding homes both have perks | **E14**



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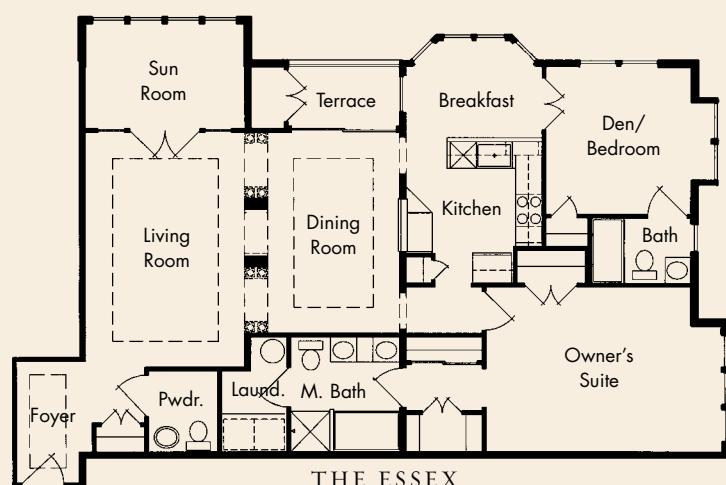
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Protection Directions

Staying safe in your condo is easy if you listen to the experts

Even if your condo is your castle, you don't need armor-wearing guards to protect it or its inhabitants. Asking simple questions before buying a property and then investing in relationships with your neighbors will go a long way toward security and a sense of well-being.

First, assess how much room you're willing to cohabit with others.

In most condo developments, there is "a lot of shared space for which you have to share responsibility," says Jean O'Neil, director of



If you leave town, don't let your mail pile up in public areas, says safety pro Jean O'Neil. This lets others know that you're gone.

research at the National Crime Prevention Council who owns a condominium in the D.C. metro area. "You do have the issue where people that come into the building aren't always going to be known to you."

Years ago, a homeless person actually moved into one of her complex's storage area units for a short time, but was detected by residents. "You have to recognize that your personal radar about what feels right or what doesn't feel right is all a part of this," she says.

Since people move in and out of buildings at such a high rate in the D.C. region, this means that it might be hard to distinguish trespassers from new owners. It can also be hard to suss out unwanted visitors, since condo owners may routinely rent out their units to different people.

How should you combat this parade of unfamiliar faces? Find out whether the condo association hosts regular meet and greets to introduce the newcomers to long-time residents.

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If you're pondering buying a place, it's smart to inquire with the head of the condo association or property manager on the premises about the safety and security that comes with purchase. "Also, chat up residents. See what they think," O'Neil says.

A lot of condo owners don't think they need security, because they have access control."

MARY KNEBEL, ALARM.COM

With residents moving in and out, keys to common areas may be hard to keep track of. Ask the condo association about its policy about changing the locks: Does the property change the door code every time someone moves out?

Also, check about carbon monoxide monitoring. "The price of an



Want to be sure your condo has safe entry points? Check for well-lit hallways and good sight lines, says expert Jean O'Neil.

alarm is small for the safety against something that is silent, odorless and deadly," O'Neil says.

Brian Ver Planck, North American regional sales manager for ADT Security and a D.C. area resident, says carbon monoxide monitoring is one of the company's "most commonly elected" services, outside of intrusion detection.

After you've looked into advertised safety and security precautions, see for yourself whether the development's defenses meet your needs. Observe the construction of entry doors. They should be made of solid core wood and have a dead bolt that extends a minimum of one inch beyond the door's edge, Ver Planck says.

O'Neil adds: "Door chains are only as good as the screws that hold them, so don't hold your breath. They are not particularly effective."

In addition, ensure the doors to common areas shut — and lock — automatically.

CONTINUED ON E6

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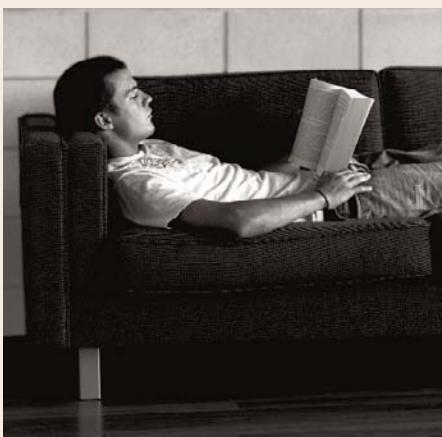
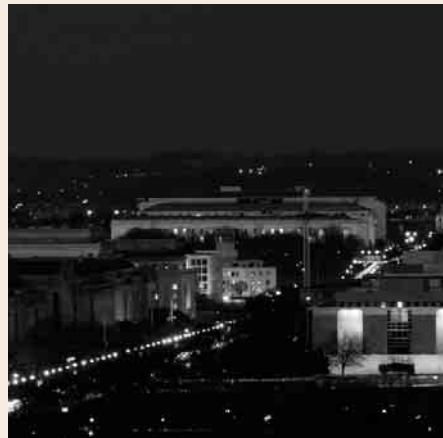
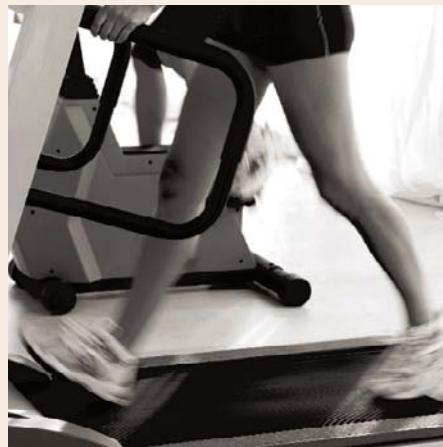
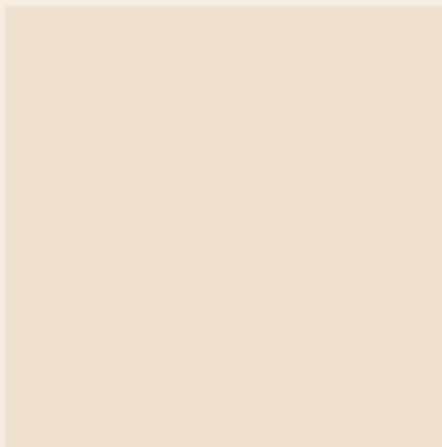
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CondoLiving



"Door chains are only as good as the screws that hold them," says safety expert Jean O'Neil. Don't rely on them as the primary door lock for your condominium.

Condo Safety

CONTINUED FROM E4

Act like a perpetrator yourself: Drive by the property at night. Are the entrances, parking lots and parking garages well-lit? Do you feel like you can walk around without being afraid? "You can't have bushes that are providing instant hiding places for criminals," O'Neil warns.

If you end up closing on the condo unit, have the locks changed on your own doors before you move in to the new place. "You never know how many keys are out there, even if it's a new unit," she says.

Then, make an effort to get to know your neighbors. In large part, safety is a collaborative effort that requires some level of familiarity with fellow residents.

"You don't have to be bosom buddies or know their intimate secrets," O'Neil notes. "Say, 'hi.'"

Propose that the condo association appoint one person per floor, row of townhouses or cluster of units to grab newspapers when people go on vacation or business trips.

You might want to see whether fellow owners are agreeable to having the police perform a building-wide security survey, O'Neil suggests. This kind of evaluation pinpoints general vulnerabilities, which you can address with basic intrusion detection if it's not there already. Sensors on the door and lower-level windows can be installed for less than \$1,000, according to Brinks spokesman Dave Simon.

But, he says, bear in mind that "security systems are a deterrent. They are not designed to capture criminals." Usually, a triggered sensor will alert the alarm company's central monitoring system — not the police. The monitoring center filters out false alarms by calling customers to ensure the alert is legitimate and contacts the local authorities only when there is a real

66 You do have the issue where people that come into the building aren't always going to be known to you.

JEAN O'NEIL, SAFETY EXPERT

break-in or if the customer cannot be reached.

Beyond the basic access control technology, there are some other gadgets on the market that might increase your comfort level. Fake signs emblazoned with the words "Brinks" or "ADT" are not among them, O'Neil warns. Similarly, she says, "fake cans for hiding things are possibly better known to the burglar than to you."

Video monitoring may seem superfluous and, perhaps, even intrusive, but it is available to individual owners.

ADT now offers a residential

CONTINUED ON E8



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Condo Safety

CONTINUED FROM E6

camera system that is controlled and monitored exclusively by the owner. The camera, connected to a sensor mounted on the owner's front door, is placed outside the entrance. Any time the door is opened, the sensor activates the camera's recorder to go back and save about 10 to 15 seconds of footage before and after the door was opened. The sensor can notify the owner via his or her PC or PDA. Only the user can view the video. The system is not tied to

ADT's central station.

Finally, there is the option of loved-one protection. McLean-based company Alarm.com offers a Web-enabled feature that notifies the owner's family members and emergency contacts by cell phone or other Internet device if the condo's motion detector senses movement where it shouldn't be or, conversely, doesn't sense movement where it should be — say, in Grandma's bedroom.

This means a condo owner's son could remotely keep tabs on

CONTINUED ON E10

TIPS FROM THOSE IN THE KNOW



Keep it to Yourself

Once you have the physical infrastructure of your condo under lockdown, it's time to fortify the virtual infrastructure: the Internet.

"Guard your online situation carefully," says Jean O'Neil, director of research at the National Crime Prevention Council and a local condo owner.

Don't let neighbors along the information superhighway tap into your e-mail or online bank accounts. Also, don't let your neighbor next door piggyback off your wireless network. "Update security on your home computer regularly. Be careful of the security of laptops, BlackBerrys, cell phones and other electronic gear in common areas of the condominium," O'Neil cautions.

Information security pertains to postal mail as well as personal documents.

"Don't leave outgoing mail stacked by the mailboxes. Put it in a secure U.S. Postal Service box. Your outgoing paid bills and other mail can give an ID thief all that's needed to clean you — and your good name — out," O'Neil says.

The Postal Service notes that would-be mail thieves also crave your credit card applications and bank account statements.

"And shred sensitive materials before they go to the trash room," O'Neil says. "Most people are great, kind, trustworthy — but it only takes one." A.S.

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Condo Safety

CONTINUED FROM E8

his elderly mom by having the system signal him if there is no motion in her room by 9 a.m., when she typically wakes up. There are no cameras. The system collects data mainly from wireless or hard-wired sensors.

This wizardry either can be set up by an Alarm.com authorized

dealer or self-installed.

Mary Knebel, Alarm.com's vice president of business development, says the product can also provide piece of mind for young families. "A lot of condo owners don't think they need security, because they have access control into the building. But these systems can alert them to whether someone has gotten into their medicine cabinet or their liquor cabinet." ALIYA STERNSTEIN

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Rubberized plastic lends René Adda's Dolmen battery-powered radio mid-century flair. It's just the thing to tote to the bomb shelter during a Martian-invasion scare. (\$48, momastore.org)

↓ LAMP IT UP

With their Velcro "feet" and tiny size, Noel Zeller's aptly named, battery-powered Peanut Emergency Lights glow where other flashlights fear to go—in creepy storage spaces and under sinks. (\$24, momastore.org)



↑ TA-TA, TEMPLETON

Do rats have rights? Perhaps not, if they're chewing through your electrical wires, giving you bubonic plague or moving your cheese. Victor's Electronic Rat Trap zaps them in seconds. (\$70, whateverworks.com)



Race For Secure



Duct tape, plastic sheeting and bottled water have their place in a ready-for-anything household. But making your pad a haven from fire, blackouts, injuries and clever cat burglars doesn't have to be a piecemeal, unattractive endeavor. High-style, high-tech safety goods make your home secure yet still stylish. "Living in today's world, people are definitely looking for things to keep themselves and their families safer," says Kathy Adams, a retail buyer for the International Spy Museum Store (8th and F streets NW; 202-393-7798).

The American Red Cross recommends stocking your emergency larder with three days worth of water and non-perishable food, a first-aid kit and other worst-case-scenario sundries. But other be-prepared goods can be whimsical and even colorful. That power outage during the next Hurricane Whatever-Its-Name-Is will seem less tedious if you have a hipster radio tuned in to WTOP's weather report (or NPR's evening news). And oven mitts that resemble demented Disney characters can even make kitchen caution fun!

Such cloak-and-dagger survivalist gear carries with it a certain pleasure, a me-and-my-stuff-against-the-world feeling of satisfaction and security. "I think everyone wants to be James Bond a little bit," says Adams. And he or she with the coolest gadgets sleeps best at night, right?

JENNIFER BARGER (EXPRESS)



← CLIMB-IT CHANGE

Safety treads and deep steps make Frontgate's folding ladder a dependable home-repair buddy. A locking platform assures no one's going to the emergency room after using it. (\$89, frontgate.com)

↑ MOUTH GUARD

Like cartoon safety mascots that make themselves useful, silicone Hot Heads (\$10, Home Rule, 1807 14th St. NW; 202-797-5544; homerule.com) grip fiery fry pans and take a bite of kitchen blandness.

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Fires or floods won't foil this paper-stashing baby, which boasts a sturdy lock. Yep, this is where to hide your treasure maps, passports and fake IDs. (\$109, frontgate.com)

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Foil Dudley Do Wrongs (or nosy roommates) with secret compartments in what look to be ordinary beauty products and foods. (\$15-\$20, International Spy Museum Store or spymuseumstore.org)



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A Fortress Or a Flat?

Weighing the choice between a single-family home or a condo

After Marc-Pierre Jansen and Jessica Carrano got married last September, they went house hunting. But like many new nesters, they ended up with a condo.

In January, they closed on a property in Columbia Heights at the Piedmont Condominiums, a four-story, 21-unit building that, for more than 100 years, has

offered a convenient location to its residents.

So, why didn't they go for the American dream of a Cape Cod or Colonial with a picket fence? "For a single person or a young couple, a condo has its advantages — primarily, to be near the city," says the 27-year-old Jansen, who works in Georgetown and jogs 30 minutes to his office each day, taking the bus home at quitting time. He says he loves the convenience: "I don't want to commit to three hours a day of commuting."

For other pad seekers, the choice between purchasing a condo or a single family home is a toss-up.



IF FOUR WALLS COULD TALK: Single-family homes often offer more privacy than condos, but that can mean more upkeep.

Not so long ago, condos were often considered less desirable than free-standing homes. But in recent years, as detached home prices have soared and travel times from far-out suburbs have ballooned, condos have

become an attractive alternative.

Michael Rankin, managing partner of Tutt, Taylor and Rankin Sotheby's International Realty, which has offices across the metro area, says it usually comes

down to dollars. "If you're spending \$400,000 to \$600,000, a detached home in the city is hard to find. But we have a lot of demand for condos in that price range."

CONTINUED ON E18

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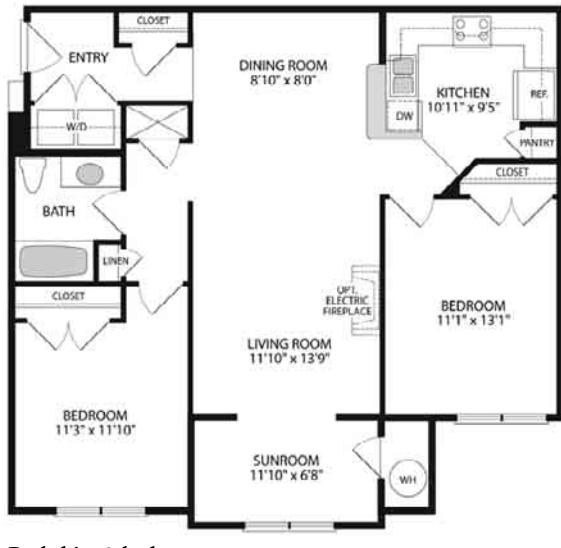
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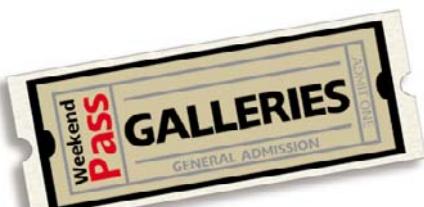


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When it delivers in 2008, the Metropole condos at 15th and U streets NW will boast a central location close to offices and cafes as well as an on-site gym and salon.

SFH vs. Condo

CONTINUED FROM E14

Single-family homes may appear to come with bigger price tags. But after a certain price point, certain houses cost less than some condos. For example, Rankin says, "It's hard to find houses at \$1,000 per square foot, but at 3303 Water Street, condos there in Georgetown were \$1,000 a square foot, and the Ritz Carlton in Georgetown [3150 South St.] is \$725 per square foot." By contrast, "I would say a typical three-bedroom home in Arlington is \$400,000 to \$900,000 and the average size is about 2,000 to 2,500 square feet. Bethesda would be a little more, like \$900,000 to \$1 million [for the same size house]," which puts them in the neighborhood of \$360 per square foot.

The climb in the appeal (and price) of condominiums is partially because these flats aren't the bland white boxes of past decades, says real estate developer Scott Pannick. "It's someone's home, and because it's small, it needs to be dramatic in some way. The increased cost of

space is causing us to design interiors much more carefully. The buildings of the future will have incredibly tight designs where everything has its space but doesn't lose that sense of drama."

Pannick's company, Metropolis Development, just began selling the multimillion-dollar Metropo-

You can't grow with a condo. We'd like to be able to build an addition.

TIFFANY STONE, HOME SEEKER

le, a collection of 90 luxury residential condominiums in D.C.'s Logan Circle.

Pannick says location is often the driving force behind people's choosing a condo versus a detached home. "There are not a lot of choices in urban living," he says. "People want to live downtown, and they have limited options."

CondoLiving

"Condos are typically located closed to subway stops and amenities," says Barry Levy, a real estate agent with RE/MAX Allegiance in northwest D.C. "If you want to jump on Metro and walk to Starbucks, you're more likely to find that in a condo."

But that convenience comes at the cost of space. Tiffany Stone, 35, and her husband are looking for a single-family home to accommodate their 4-year-old and 6-month-old kids. Stone's a Realtor with Fairfax Realty, Rockville, and says having room is more important to her than living next to public transportation.

"Having the space is important to me because I have two children," Stone says. "We need a yard for them to run around in."

"If someone was on the fence, I would counsel them to get the single-family for the investment alone. I see them holding their value better. When there was a downturn in the market, condos seemed to lose their value."

Beyond monetary and space considerations, remember that condos come with rules. There are associations you have to join, maintenance fees to cough up and restrictions regarding noise, pets and even the number of visitors you have. So, if you have a home-based business that requires a lot of foot traffic, a condo may not be for you. And that ninth-floor one-bedroom with a view of the Potomac also can't offer the privacy you'd find in a detached home.

"There are people upstairs and



While condos may be smaller in size than freestanding houses, they often offer flashy party rooms residents share, like this one at the Westlee in Arlington, Va.

And Stone's also looking ahead. "We also want something we can add on to. You can't grow with a condo. We'd like to be able to build an addition on our single-family home in the future."

As a Realtor, Stone advises that both condos and single-family units have appreciation potential but, "Higher-end condos are having a hard time right now," she says. "It depends on the price of the home and where it is. You have to analyze the appreciation rates in the area where you're looking. Single-family homes also maintain a consistently higher resale value."

Eric North of ZipRealty agrees.

downstairs," Jansen says wistfully. "They can hear us, and we can hear them. I'd like a bit more space."

Of course, there are a lot of extras in a condo that don't come with the key to a single-family house. You don't find concierge services and fitness centers located inside the average suburban split-level. But beware.

"The trick is to not pay for the things you don't want," Levy says. "You have to figure out what you want to pay for, and not things that cost money that you won't use."

Single-family homes offer their own amenities. Space, pri-

CONTINUED ON E20

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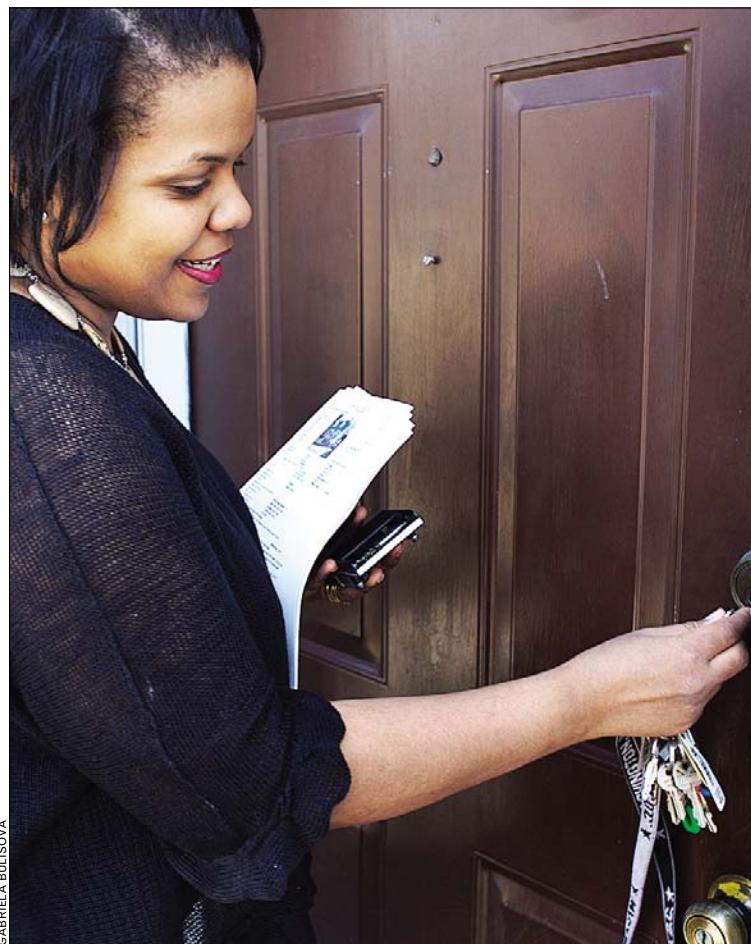
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GABRIELA BULISCOVA

Maryland real estate agent Tiffany Stone helps people hunt for both condos and single-family homes. But she's seeking a freestanding house for her own family.

SFH vs. Condo

CONTINUED FROM E19

vacy, autonomy and a yard can be powerful draws.

"It's the dream," Rankin says. "We all think about when we get to a certain point in our lives and have a detached house with a front and backyard. We check it off our list of what we want to do. We're all grown-up now."

Being an adult with a freestanding home requires physical and fiscal demands for upkeep. In a condo, someone else cuts the grass and cleans the gutters. Jansen says he doesn't mind paying condo fees to save himself some headaches, but he was shocked at how much some developments charge.

"Some of these fees are \$600 a month! Ours is only \$200. That includes gas, trash and cleaning and general fund, so it's pretty set in that sense. You know what to project for bills."

Experts say condo fees aren't a rip-off, but you should still examine them closely before signing on the dotted line. Nanci J. Rands, former president of the Metropolitan Consolidated Association of Realtors,

says it is important to determine what is included in your monthly association fee.

"Usually a condominium complex hires a management company to take care of the day-to-day maintenance, like clearing driveways and mowing lawns, but there is a wide variation in exactly what their duties

66 It's the dream.

We all think about when we get to have a detached house."

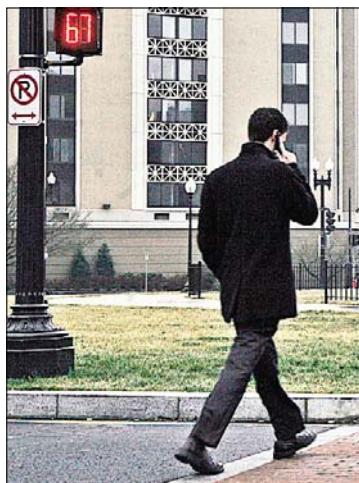
MICHAEL RANKIN, REALTOR

and responsibilities are."

While Jansen and his wife are pleased with their current condo, he still dreams of the day they'll own a single-family home.

But his choice to live in a condo now boils down to its convenient location. "I like the country. I'd like to have my own grass and a garden. But I don't want to commute an hour and a half each way."

LYNN THORNE



Changes to D.C. traffic patterns are making the city pedestrian-friendly.

Talking About Walking

D.C. officials want more people to take to the streets. To make life easier for pedestrians, they want to widen sidewalks, redesign crossings and reduce driving speeds. They want to know where brighter lighting is needed, where more trees should be planted and which intersections are too perilous for foot traffic. Officials are working on the District's first formal plan to make the area a more enjoyable — and safer — place to walk.

"Every day, we're becoming more of a walking city," said Emeka C. Moneme, acting director of the District Department of Transportation.

With its first Pedestrian Master Plan, the District is joining a nationwide trend toward more walkable and less car-reliant communities. In the past few years, a growing number of cities, including Cambridge, Mass., and Portland, Ore., have adopted blueprints for how best to encourage and protect pedestrians. In the Washington region, Arlington and Loudoun counties also have adopted detailed pedestrian plans.

Public safety is a top consideration. In the District last year, 17 pedestrians were killed; in 2005, there were 16 such deaths.

"The more pedestrians you have on the street, the safer it is for everyone."

CONTINUED ON E22

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CondoLiving



NIKKI KAHN/WASHINGTON POST
"We're becoming more of a walking city," says Emeka C. Moneme, head of the District Department of Transportation, which is spearheading pro-pedestrian projects.

Foot Power

CONTINUED FROM E21

pedestrian," said George Branyan, DDOT's pedestrian program coordinator, who said a major safety priority is to "calm speeds."

The District has a built-in advantage in launching the initiative. Like most older East Coast cities — Boston, Philadelphia, New York — it was conceived as a walking city, with narrow streets laid out on a tight grid. After World War II, many communities neglected the needs of pedestrians, as the automobile spawned suburban growth and inner cities began to decay.

"But now, more and more communities are realizing they need to focus their design around people, not the car," said Dan Burden, director of Walkable Communities, a nonprofit organization based in Orlando. The group ranks Washington among its top pedestrian-friendly cities.

Burden said support for doing more to promote walking comes from several directions, citing concerns about traffic congestion, fuel consumption and obesity.

With its new pedestrian plan, the District aims to cater more to its growing foot traffic, transportation officials said.

"We have the second-busiest transit system in the country, and that puts a lot of people on the streets," Branyan said. Twelve percent of D.C. workers walk to work, he said.

DDOT has set aside \$250,000 for development of the plan, but there is no separate budget for

improvements it would recommend, Branyan said. "We will incorporate more pedestrian-friendly features on reconstruction already slated to be done." Officials laid the groundwork for the project last year, and Mayor Adrian M. Fenty, a Democrat, is supporting it.

Branyan pointed to the recent \$6 million redesign of Thomas Circle in Northwest as an example of what DDOT wants to accomplish elsewhere in the city. The work there included redirecting motor traffic to the perimeter of the circle, eliminating cut-through lanes and easing traffic flow for pedestrians and vehicles.

In the past three years, DDOT has installed 1,300 countdown devices at signaled intersections showing pedestrians how many seconds they have to cross safely. About 200 more are planned.

Some simple adjustments have reaped benefits. Eliminating rush-hour parking restrictions on busy 13th Street NW, for example, reduced travel to two lanes from Logan Circle to Florida Avenue, Branyan said. Traffic was forced to slow down, and pedestrians are now able to cross more safely.

"Speed is the critical factor in the severity of injury to pedestrians," Branyan said. "If you hit a pedestrian at 40 mph, they have a 90 percent chance of dying. But conversely, if you're going 25 mph, they have an 80 percent chance of survival."

"This is not a case of reinventing the wheel," he said. "There are a lot of good ideas out there." SUE ANNE PRESSLEY MONTES (THE WASHINGTON POST)

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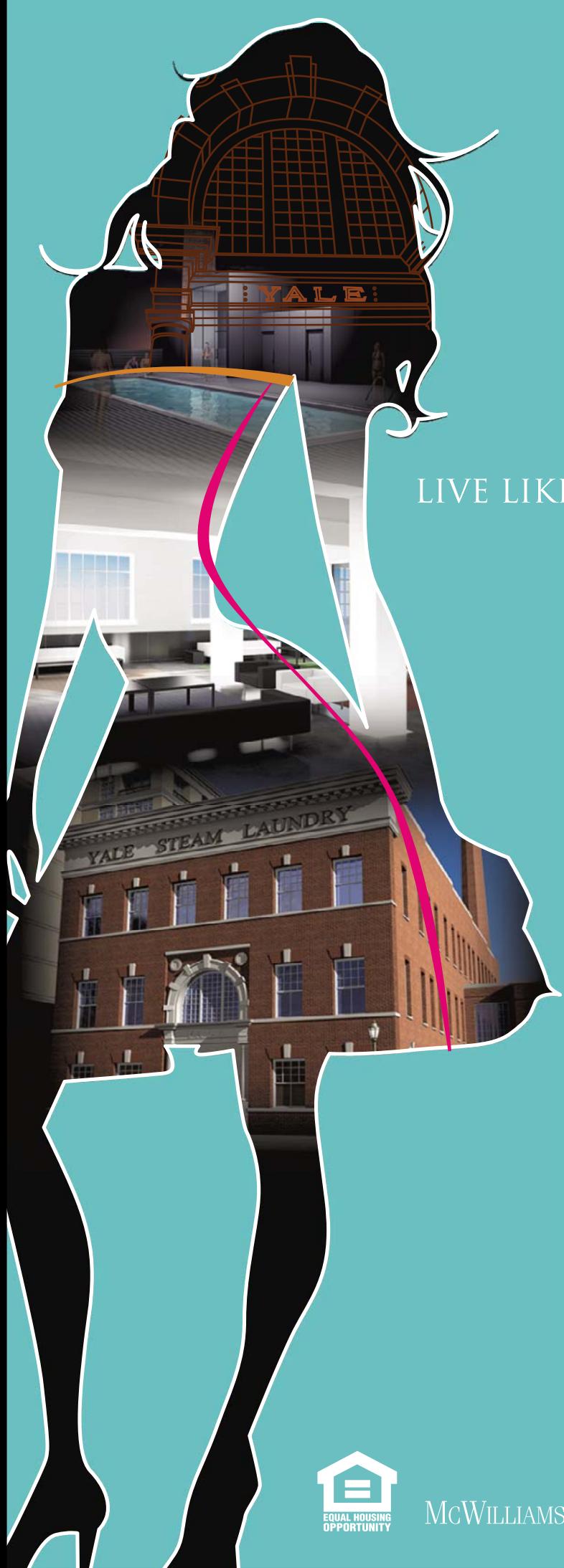
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